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POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 2074

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12 November 1982

EAST EUROPE REPORT
POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 2074

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Kulikov Arrives for 'Shield 82' Maneuvers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 27 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] (BTA) Marshal Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member countries, together with Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces, arrived yesterday in the country to participate in the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

At Varna Airport they were welcomed by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and commander of the maneuvers, Col Gen Atanas Semerdzhiev, first deputy minister of national defense and chief of General Staff, Col Gen Kiril Kosev, chief of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army, deputy ministers, generals and officers. Also present were Col Gen Vladimir Yakushin, representative of the commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member countries to the BNA [Bulgarian People's Army], and generals and officers from the fraternal armies who will participate in the maneuvers.

Delegations to the 'Shield 82' Maneuvers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 27 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] (BTA) Military delegations headed by Col Gen Jarantayn Abhia, minister of defense of the Mongolian People's Republic, Lt Gen Senen Casas Regeiro, Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo candidate member and first deputy minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba, and Col Gen Le Chong Tan, deputy minister of national defense and chief of general staff of the Vietnamese People's Army arrived in the country yesterday to attend the "Shield 82" maneuvers. They were welcomed by Army Gen Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense, commander of the maneuver, Col Gen Kiril Kosev, chief of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army, and Bulgarian People's Army generals and officers.

Foreign Officers Interviewed

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 27 Sep 82 pp 1-2

[Interview by Capt 2d Rank Yani Poptomov]

[Text] Sr Lt Viktor Baskin did not leave the main command center even for a single minute. The events in which the coastal mine-sweeper in his charge participated were quite stressed and important. Everything was successful. By the time he issued his final order "Free from stations!" night had fallen on the sea.

Viktor Mikhaylovich was looking forward to a deserved rest but... the seaman on duty reported that he was expected ashore. Neither of us tried to postpone the interview, for the next morning was to be full of surprises.

"Viktor Mikhaylovich," I said. "Please excuse me for coming aboard so late but I waited for you ashore a long time."

"No matter," smiled the tall blond officer understandingly. "We each have our job, don't we?"

I explained my assignment and the first question I asked was "Why is your boat named "Orenburgskiy Komsomolets?"

"One of our traditions is for the Komsomol to sponsor new ships. This year the Soviet youth will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of sponsoring navy ships.

"While our beauty consisted of no more than sheets of steel and its sections were being welded together, the Orenburg Komsomol members requested that it be named after their city. Since then extensive warm relations have developed between them and our crew. The young people visit us frequently, bring us gifts and news from their area, and give strength to the seamen to carry out their military duty even more courageously. We have aboard ship a small museum in which we proudly exhibit precious relics presented by our sponsors. We are also engaged in various mass political projects in order to strengthen and intensify our friendship even further. The Orenburg Komsomol organization assigns its best members to serve aboard our ship. About one-half of our company is from Orenburg. They sacredly observe the traditions of their native city and oblast and dedicate all their strength to increasing the successes of our crew."

"What preparations did you make for your participation in the 'Shield 82' maneuvers?"

"Some of the best units of the Red Banner Black Sea Navy of the USSR were awarded the privilege of participating in 'Shield 82'. We were honored to be among them. We deserved it, for 'Orenburgskiy Komsomolets' has been rated an

excellent ship for the second time running and this year was awarded a cup and the pennant 'Best Ship in the Unit.'

"It was also a question of prestige to justify the faith of the command. We worked hard with a thorough review and, wherever necessary, repair of the equipment and machine units, basic cleaning and painting of the ship and intensified combat training. We have always persistently trained, for one of the specific assignments of this crew is to be a helicopter base. This requires confident, fast and coordinated action. Our efforts were not wasted as confirmed by the recently concluded exercise."

"Could you name the officers who distinguished themselves so far in your training for participation in 'Shield 82'?"

"It would be difficult to single out an individual among this united and purposeful group of officers. Nevertheless, let me name our mechanic Sr Lt Engineer Aleksandr Soshkin. He is an excellent organizer, an exigent officer and an excellent specialist. I trust him completely and I know that my order will be obeyed immediately and that all machine units will be properly powered. Also praiseworthy is the team of the mining-artillery combat unit commanded by Lt Igor Lisyanskiy and Navigator Lt Andrey Kiselev, who joined the ship recently but is working with a great deal of willingness and I am confident that he will become an experienced navigator and commander."

"Could we then say that it is precisely these combat units that are the best aboard ship?"

"All of our subunits are excellent. They are also divisional champions. I almost always give their assignments the grade 5."

"What about leaders in the competition among the conscripts?"

"Petty Officers Aleksandr Skat, Oleg Maltsev, Sergey Shparev and Petty Officer 2d Class Zdanauskas. They assist their superiors in the more purposeful and efficient training and upbringing of the other seamen."

"What were your initiatives in preparing for the maneuvers?"

"In honor of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR our crew pledged to consolidate its titles 'Excellent Ship' and 'Best Ship in the Unit,' by having all its assignments graded excellent or good. We were able to accomplish this. Actually, all that is left is the biggest trial--our participation in 'Shield 82.'

"At the beginning of the period especially assigned for preparations for the maneuvers, our crew appealed to all minesweepers in terms of meeting a number of indicators. We challenged the 'Khersonskiy Komsomolets.' All collectives discussed our challenged and joined the noble competition."

"Is this your first visit to Bulgaria? What are your impressions?"

"This is my third visit to your beautiful sunny and hospitable country. I feel here really at home, among close and warm people. Every time I leave I make the wish to return back to my friends."

"Who are they?"

"Sr Lts Nikolay Nikolaev, Plamen Manushev and Petrov."

"Yes, these are officers serving on one of our best minesweepers. Do you correspond with them?"

"Naturally. We extend reciprocal invitations to visit. Our invitations are entirely realistic, for both crews are competition champions and always participate in the joint exercises between our two fraternal navies. This makes us richer. We share experience and engage in unofficial friendly competition."

I left the ship with a feeling of unconcealed respect for these daring sailors who have dedicated their entire youth and lives to selfless service of the homeland and socialism and to the defense of peace.

Television Crew Visits Fliers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 27 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Col Raycho Vasev]

[Text] N Garrison (by telephone from our special correspondent). It may seem somewhat incredible and strange but when our television colleagues pointed their cameras at the pilots in the vicinity of their aircraft, they reacted:

"What are you doing? Is it proper to catch us at such a time? Pilots playing dominos. What will our enemies, with and without quotes, think?"

"This too is a part of your life. We shall film you during times of rest. We were lucky to see you also over the 'battlefield' in which you proved the power of your attacks and even the precision of your fire.... But that was from a distance, for our cameras are not armor-plated," the television journalist answered.

Not a single member of the team tried to avoid the camera, probably because the commander of the air force unit was in front of them.

As I wrote down the names of pilots Officers Vasiliy Artashonak, Mikhail Pinchuk, Sr Lt Volodya Efremov and Vasiliy Baykov, I asked the commander about their class specialty. He answered:

"Their military ranks are different but the other title indicating degree of combat skill is the same--first class. This means that they are trained to operate day and night, in good and bad weather conditions."

By the time we reached the aircraft the pilots were already wearing their altitude suits and helmets. I tried to identify the commander of the combat unit but found this difficult, for they all looked alike, like twins. The air force unit commander apparently guessed by thoughts, for he said:

"This is the flight of Capts Vasiliy Tsibliyev, Vladimir Zamay, Vladimir Golovin and Nikolay Andryushenko, all of them graduates of the same class and close friends. This is an excellent combat group, ready to carry out even most difficult and responsible assignments. All of them are first class pilots. I am confident that in every single flight in the course of the maneuvers they will prove their high flying and fire skills. One more reason for my confidence is that the airplanes are carefully maintained by the technicians. But let Yuriy describe this better...."

The story was taken up by the excellent air force technician and commander who respectfully mentioned Lt Aleksandr Barabanov, an aircraft technician, standing nearby. An excellent industrious specialist. This was followed by the names of aircraft technicians and other specialists, including Warrant Officer Yuriy Polyanikov, senior aircraft mechanic, rated excellent in combat and political training and one of the best aircraft specialists first class. He was not alone in this list....

This was an excellent combat squadron. This is the truth which is seen best when the aircraft take off in combat formation and attack. The proof of fire is the best!

GDR Sergeant Interviewed

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 27 Sep 82 p 2

[Interview conducted by Sr Lt Evgeni Genov]

[Text] Jr Sgt Andreas Wack, from the National People's Army of the GDR, commander of a motorized infantry squad is an excellent grenade launcher. His troops have always scored well in tactical training. I was able to talk to Jr Sgt Wack after his return from a tactical combat exercise.

[Question] What did you do today?

[Answer] I got up precisely at 5 am. After personal preparations and breakfast I reviewed my soldiers. I went to the pool and checked the engines. We spent the entire day in training. We worked on problems of interaction with Bulgarian motorized infantrymen.

[Question] Can you describe a particularly difficult period in your service?

[Answer] During the winter we were to give a demonstration of advancing with combat fire. It was very cold. We had to wait about 4 hours before the order to attack was received. My first action was to summon my own willpower. I talked individually to every one of my subordinates to lift their spirit.

[Question] What is the happiest time in your service?

[Answer] When I see that my efforts are not wasted, when the troops achieve excellent results, and when I see that the "enemy" tank is on fire with the very first shot.

[Question] Is your mood shared by the troops and does it influence the successes of the squad in the course of the training process?

[Answer] Not directly but indirectly always. I know that my subordinates watch very carefully my actions and gestures and that is why I try to suppress any negative feelings within me.

[Question] What are you own plans for the future?

[Answer] I will be discharged very soon. I would like very much to go to the Soviet Union and take part in laying the pipeline. I think that that is how I will be most useful to my homeland.

[Question] What are your impressions of the Bulgarian soldiers and their combat qualities?

[Answer] I saw the way your troops were advancing along the left flank during the exercises. They are excellent soldiers. It seems to me that nothing can stop them. During rest periods they came and talked with us. They are very communicative and warm. They always want to have comrades nearby to like them and to be liked. What could be better?

Artillery Battery Training

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 27 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Sr Lt Stefan Shopov]

[Text] There are times of joy among difficulties. It was that kind of joy that I noted the moment I glanced at Lt Rumen Georgiev. He was happy that it was precisely here, in the course of the "Shield 82" maneuvers, during one of the brief resting periods, that he had received his party card.

So far Lieutenant Georgiev has behaved impeccably. His platoon has always led in the socialist competition. The battery is also excellent. It is faced with a most difficult test--to operate properly in the course of the joint maneuvers and to retain the high results already achieved. That is why his efforts are focused on the advanced training and upgrading the combat spirit of the artillery men.

Together with political worker Lieutenant Todorov, he is always to be found on the firing positions, explaining to the troops the complexity of the forthcoming exercises, refining with the gunners aspects of the interaction between

the battery and the motorized infantrymen, and reminding them that errors are inadmissible.

In the evening discussions continue at Komsomol meetings at which Private First Class Bogoev, the secretary of the Komsomol committee, reports on the daily accomplishments and issues specific training assignments to every Komsomol member.

I asked Lieutenant Georgiev about his own successes. He answered that the actions of his subordinates are the best proof of the achievements of a commander. These accomplishments were substantial.

In the course of his command activities Lieutenant Georgiev follows the traditional artillery slogan "All Gunners Must Be Excellent!" This is the rule of the battery and one of the factors in upgrading its combat readiness.

Unquestionably, in the course of the "Shield 82" maneuvers Lieutenant Georgiev's artillerymen will fulfill their military duty worthily.

Conversation With Bomber Pilot

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 p 1

[Article by Capt Ivan Sotirov]

[Text] I can very easily imagine Officer Anatoliy Grishin, military pilot first class, in the cockpit of the silvery fighter-bomber. That is perhaps because we are standing by the wing of the aircraft or perhaps because our conversation is about the sky and because of the energy and confidence expressed on his face and his firmness and readiness to engage in quick action. I can visualize him in the sky, holding firmly the control stick, engaged in a complex maneuver or rushing to his target. I can see his face full of tension while his eyes remain calm and concentrated.

"These maneuvers will be difficult," Officer Grishin said. "The assignments are difficult and will be carried out under conditions similar to real battle. All the fliers in our unit are aware of their responsibility. We are pleased to be acting together with the fliers of the fraternal armies and that we will be carrying out our assignments wingtip to wingtip. Let our enemies realize not only our skill but our great friendship and unity and our readiness to keep clean the sky over the socialist countries."

Although Anatoliy was born several years after the Great Patriotic War, the topic of the war is always present in his conversation. His father worked at a war plant during that time, for which reason he did not go to the front. His two uncles fought. Private Mikhail Grishin was a driver and was killed by a bomb. Sapper Private Pavel Grishin returned. He faced death thousands of times in defusing enemy mines but survived.

Anatoliy recalls that as a little boy his uncle Pavel would hoist him on his knees and describe to him the fierce battles, the courage and heroism of the Soviet troops and commanders and the difficult and responsible work of the sapper. However, little Tolya was most strongly impressed by the exploits of the fliers. When the time to choose his career came he did not hesitate and became a military flier.

"I love my profession. I love to fly but that is not all," Officer Grishin goes on to say. "To be a military flier is a profession for the strong and the daring, but even that is not all. In my view, the sake for which we do our work, regardless of whether it is big or small, is more important. I recall the words of a character in the Soviet movie 'Officers:' 'The profession is the defense of the homeland.' That is what matters in life--to define precisely one's way and to follow it honestly, to have ideological convictions and loyalty to the communist party and the homeland and a feeling of internationalism, which characterizes today's military. We are no longer defending only our homeland but, wingtip to wingtip with the fliers of the fraternal armies, we are safeguarding the rightness and tranquility of our peaceful socialist countries."

I described to Anatoliy Grishin the monument to the Soviet army in Plovdiv and the soldier carved of stone, lovingly named by the Bulgarians Al'osha. Here, on the hill on which a granite-carved soldier wearing a forage cap stands, many people come, to bring fresh flowers as an expression of the respect felt for our double liberators and an acknowledgment of the internationalism of the Soviet soldier who not only defeated the Hitlerite fascist beast but is honestly defending the free and happy days of the peoples of Europe.

There are many monuments to the Soviet army in our fatherland. We have seen such monuments in other countries as well, as manifestations of recognition and love. These monuments can be found throughout the land covered with the bones and soaked in the blood of the Soviet soldier-internationalist.

"It is always warm in Bulgaria, even during the winter. This warmth comes from the friendliness and hospitality of your people," Anatoliy Grishin said. "I was born on the Volga in Samara (today Kuybyshev) and have heard about the Bulgarians and since my childhood I have heard about the Bulgarians and the Samara flag with which your militiamen fought the Turkish enslavers. I have frequently met Bulgarian fliers and we have always found a common language--the language of friendship."

When the joint exercises of the fraternal armies begin, the fighter-bombers will streak through the sky like lightning.... One of them will be flown by Military Pilot First Class Party Member Anatoliy Grishin. He will pilot his silver-winged airplane confidently and daringly toward its objective, wingtip to wingtip with the fliers of the allied armies, so that the sky over our socialist countries may remain just as pure and cloudless.

Unusual Landing

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 pp 1-2

[Article by Maj Engineer Veselin Stoyanov]

[Text] It all started with a recent order issued by the minister of national defense, awarding Sr Lt Dimitur Chavdarov the medal "For Excellence in the BNA," while Officer Dimitur Fotev was awarded a pair of binoculars. The actions of the two combat fliers are described in this document as a model of courage, self-control and high feeling of responsibility in carrying out their assignment under difficult circumstances....

I set myself the task of finding out the details of what had happened, but my journalistic obligations led me instead to "Shield 82." One day, however, by sheer luck I found myself on the airfield where that same air force subunit had been relocated for participation in the joint exercise of the fraternal armies.

I first talked to First Class Pilot Officer Fotev. In a restrained and brief manner he described to me this exceptionally serious event. A combat training aircraft was being flown by Senior Lieutenant Velinov, as instructor. According to the planned schedule he was flying over the sea. The distance from the airfield and the altitude prevented the crew from hearing clearly the conversation between the launching command center and the pilots in the vicinity. On the way back, however, when the distance was reduced, Officer Fotev became alarmed by the exchange between Capt Khristo Ganchev, the flight commander, and the pilot, Sr Lt Engineer Dimitur Chavdarov who was in trouble. After attempting a variety of means to rescue him, the flight commander ordered the flier to fly toward the ejection area.

"Hearing the order, I grew tense," Officer Fotev said. "Ejection is a major psychological barrier for many fliers, not because they question the reliability of this impeccable rescue system but simply because of their attachment to the aircraft and the faith that at the very last moment they will be able to rescue both the airplane and themselves from a critical situation....

"I realized that the airplane piloted by Senior Lieutenant Chavdarov was in the area of the third turn and I briefly asked the flight commander for information. After several attempts, the left wheel refused to drop, thus making landing impossible. In such cases, the alternative, although quite dangerous, is for the airplane to land on the emergency grass runway using only the front wheel. However, Chavdarov was no longer sure that in such an emergency landing the wheel had indeed been released. I turned around, caught up with him and flew parallel to him on his right. I saw that the front wheel had dropped while the main carriage had not. Aware of the qualities of the pilot I decided to convince him that he could land on the grass runway. I had the deep feeling that Senior Lieutenant Chavdarov would be successful.

"What made the situation worse was the fact that Chavdarov had fuel for no more than about 3 to 5 minutes. He was at the proper altitude and I told him

not to descend steeply. I asked the flight commander to guide his landing. Senior Lieutenant Chavdarov followed my instructions calmly and precisely. After making the proper calculations, he made a very nice approach and smoothly landed his airplane on the front wheel alone. The damage caused to the aircraft was minimal--a twisted keel shoe and an air brake--and a few days later the airplane was already operational. Dimitur had liked this airplane and had intended to use it during the various combat exercises."

If you have the occasion to talk to Sr Lt Dimitur Chavdarov, to begin with you would hardly think that he is a pilot. His shyness, restraint and quiet voice are more like those of an engineer dealing with radio equipment or any other ground specialized area in aviation. You would be even more astounded when you are told that the young officer is the secretary of the party organization of the squadron where he is deputy flight commander. Briefly stated, it is rather risky to make an instant judgment about someone.

After a while, however, the conversation became easier and, with the same restraint and simplicity as his more experienced comrade, he described to me his terrifying adventure:

"I was carrying out a special combat training assignment. The day was sunny and warm. The flight route was variable. At the determined point the command center directed me toward the reconnaissance area. I carried out the proper reconnaissance and photographing maneuvers, turned on the equipment and moved out at a low altitude. I flew toward the final point of the itinerary and turned toward my airfield.... I flew over, made the circle and when I activated the landing gear I realized that the left main gear did not drop. The aircraft began to slide strongly. I reported to the flight commander that the green light on the left of my panel had not lit up but that the system's pressure was normal. I was instructed by Capt Ganchev to fly once again over the main landing strip so that they could take a close look at the airplane. I flew over the starting command center and tried to drop the landing gear by energetically pulling on the control handle and develop an overload but failed. I retracted the gear and resumed circling. The engineering command center advised me to try again but at lower speed. The same thing happened. I flew over the command center once again, created an overload but was told from the ground that the left gear had not dropped. I flew over the airfield a third time but the "miracle" did not take place. I was rapidly running out of fuel. I thought of the possibility of a forced landing with the front wheel and requested that the emergency runway be made ready. The flight manager approved my decision and assured me that everything would be in order. I released the front wheel carriage manually, which made it drop far more slowly and, since I was running dangerously low on fuel, it seemed to me that the carriage had not been released at all. In such a tight situation I could not check on the carriage signaling device. I reported that I had fuel for no more than 3 minutes and the manager ordered me to fly to the ejection area.

"Once again I flew over the airfield. From the ground they saw that the front carriage had dropped and I was informed of the fact but I no longer believed

it and asked if one of the airplanes flying in the vicinity could line up with me and see me. It is as if Officer Fotev had anticipated my concern, for I saw him the next moment flying near me. He assured me that the front wheel carriage had been released so that I could convert to economy fuel and land. I made a third turn with reduced power, lowered the flaps, completed the fourth turn, released the air brakes and asked the flight controller to give me landing instructions. There have been few cases of forced landing with supersonic aircraft and successful landings of this kind are not 100 percent assured.

"I made a left turn to the emergency runway. The flight controller instructed me when to begin to level off. 'A little bit more... Still some more... You're about to touch ground!' Captain Ganchev said. I switched off the engine the moment I touched ground. The airplane smoothly slid along the grass. I stopped at the end of the runway. The airplane leaned toward the left. I switched off everything, lifted the canopy and asked the firefighters who had already reached me if something was burning. They told me that everything was alright. Inasmuch as I could, I calmly unstrapped myself and stood up...."

Since there was no ladder, the air physician and two other people carried their comrade to the control tower. A medical examination showed that the pulse of Senior Lieutenant Chavdarov was beating at the rate of 120 beats per minute and his blood pressure was 180 over 120. After 25 minutes everything dropped back to normal. Despite this, the air medical commission decided that the flier needed a rest after this event and the Chavdarov family was sent to a military rest station. Those most pleased by this development were 5-year-old Emiliyan and 3-year-old Maya....

"I returned to the squadron and began my preparations for the maneuvers," said Sr Lt Dimitur Chavdarov, ending his story. "I am now trying to carry out my assignments during the exercise as required."

Experience Shared

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 pp 1-2

[Article by Col Raycho Vasev and Maj Engineer Dragomir Gospodinov]

[Text] N Garrison (by telephone from our special correspondents). Commanders and political workers from the armies of the Warsaw Pact members visited the camp of the Polish People's Army to share their experience on problems of raising the troops in a spirit of revolutionary vigilance and permanent battle readiness in the circumstances of intensified imperialist aggressiveness.

The meeting began with a demonstration of the combat skill of the Polish troops. Parachutist instructors made a target jump carrying the flags of the fraternal armies. The troops displayed their high skill in hand to hand combat.

After welcoming the participants, Officer Marian (Zdzhalka) spoke of the uninterrupted aggressiveness of imperialism at the present stage and the constant attempts on the part of the United States and NATO to destabilize the world socialist comity. He stated that the shared experience of the representatives of the fraternal armies will be useful to all of us who are directly involved in enhancing the fruitfulness and quality of education of the troops in a spirit of revolutionary vigilance and constant combat readiness.

BNA representative Officer Dyankov shared his experience in resolving this problem in his unit and described specific manifestations of high revolutionary vigilance.

Officer Atila (Hungarian People's Army) pointed out that through false propaganda the United States and its NATO allies are trying to conceal the faults of the capitalist society and, ignoring our successes, to exaggerate our weaknesses. In order to counter such ideological subversion, the Hungarian People's Army has organized its ideological-political work focused on developing love for the USSR and the fraternal socialist countries and loyalty to our international and combat brotherhood.

Officer Fichtelmann, from the National People's Army of the GDR, spoke of the main objective of imperialism--to disturb the current balance and to destroy socialism. "That is why we must counter it ideologically as well. We are educating our troops in such a way that they may specifically identify their enemy." He described the work of the party organizations and party members in his unit on upgrading revolutionary vigilance.

Officer Troshev, who represented the Soviet army, spoke of the work of commanders and political workers and party and Komsomol members in his unit in the study of Lenin's historical legacy as the basis of effective ideological and educational work. He also shared his experience as the head of a group on Marxist-Leninist training in terms of the forms and methods he applies in educating his subordinates in a spirit of revolutionary vigilance.

Officer Sicak (Czechoslovak People's Army) described the role of ideological and educational work in his unit and discussed the most efficient ways and means to this purpose.

Officer Adamkiewicz, representing the Polish People's Army, pointed out that the Polish events are a clear example of the fact that imperialism stops at nothing in the implementation of its treacherous plans directed against socialism. The methods used by the imperialist organizations before and after the imposition of martial law in Poland were considered. It was pointed out that the main efforts of the reaction are directed against the Polish People's Army, which is fulfilling honestly and responsibly its duty to defend socialism in Poland. The Polish political worker further described the specific forms of work in his unit in strengthening the patriotic and international upbringing of the troops and their loyalty to the revolutionary traditions of the Polish people.

In his concluding speech Officer (Zdzhalka) assessed the work of the meeting and its contribution to enriching the content and methods of raising the soldiers in a spirit of revolutionary vigilance and high combat readiness. He wished all those present successful implementation of assignments in the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

Zhivkov Visits 'Shield 82' Area

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] (BTA) Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and State Council chairman, arrived in the area of the "Shield 82" maneuvers yesterday. He was accompanied by Milko Balev, Politburo member and BCP Central Committee secretary; Pencho Kubadinski, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Fatherland Front National Council; Petur Tanchev, State Council first deputy chairman and BZNS [Bulgarian Agrarian National Union] secretary, and Stanka Shopova, Komsomol Central Committee first secretary.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov and his entourage were warmly welcomed by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense, Col Gen Kiril Kosev, chief of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army, and BNA generals and officers.

Military honors were presented by a representative army unit.

Delegations to the "Shield 82" Maneuvers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] (BTA) Military delegations of Warsaw Pact member countries arrived yesterday for the purpose of participating in the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

The delegations are headed by Army General Heinz Hoffmann, SED Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense of the GDR; Armor General Florian Szwitki, PZPR Central Committee Politburo candidate member, chief of general staff and interim minister of national defense of the Polish People's Republic, Lt Gen Constantin Olteanu, Romanian Communist Party Central Committee PIK [Presumed Expansion: Permanent Executive Committee] candidate member and minister of national defense of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Dmitriy Ustinov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and marshal of the Soviet Union, Col Gen (Karol Czemi), deputy minister of defense of the Hungarian People's Republic, and Army General Martin Dzur, minister of national defense of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The delegations of the fraternal armies were warmly welcomed at Varna Airport by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense, Col Gen Atanas Semerdzhiev, first deputy minister of national defense and chief of general staff of the BNA, Col Gen Kiril

Kosev, chief of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army, Dimitur Popov, first secretary of the Varna Okrug BCP Committee, Strakhil Khristov, chairman of the executive committee of the Varna Okrug People's Council, and BNA generals and officers.

The guests were also welcomed by Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member countries, and by Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces.

Also present was Col Gen Vladimir Yakushin, representative of the commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member countries to the BNA, and generals and officers from the fraternal armies participating in the exercise.

Friendly Meeting

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] (BTA) Army Gen Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense, gave an official dinner in honor of the heads of the military delegations participating in the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

The dinner took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Interview With Army General Dzhurov

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 pp 1, 4

[Interview conducted by Krasimir Drumev, BTA deputy director general]

[Text] Maneuvers area, 27 September (BTA). In the course of the "Shield 82" maneuvers, Army Gen Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense and commander of the exercise, was interviewed by Krasimir Drumev, BTA deputy director general.

[Question] Comrade Minister, what is the military-political significance of the "Shield 82" maneuvers viewed against the background of the international situation which has worsened by the fault of the imperialist forces?

[Answer] Allow me to look for deeper roots in answering this question. As we know, World War II cost more than 50 million human lives and the peoples in the European countries, which suffered the most from the Hitlerite invasion, dreamed of a peaceful life. However, reality proved that this was not the intention of the reactionary imperialist circles in the United States and Western Europe. Violating the UN charter and their own obligations to the anti-Hitlerite coalition, they developed an entire system of aggressive blocs, leading among which was the NATO North Atlantic Pact. The tension in Europe was aggravated further after the FRG was made member of NATO in 1955.

Thinking along this line, any sensible person must agree that the creation of the Warsaw Pact for friendship, cooperation and mutual aid among the European socialist countries was an objective necessity dictated by the aggressive actions of international imperialism. Its tremendous significance lies in the fact that for the first time in the history of mankind an international organization of a new type was created, rallying equal and sovereign socialist countries, placing their entire economic, political and military might at the service of peace and social progress and the defense of the socialist gains and peaceful toil of our peoples.

The objectives and purpose of NATO are radically different. Throughout its existence it has been a steady source of tension and military threat. The actions carried out in recent years by the ruling U.S. circles have been particularly threatening to the socialist countries and world peace.

They try to conceal their monstrous preparations for "limited" nuclear warfare in Europe and lengthy nuclear war against the USSR and the other socialist countries behind the threadbare myth of the Soviet "military threat." However, the facts prove that it is precisely they who are fanning hotbeds of tension in various parts of the world, trying to apply methods of threat and diktat in international relations and grossly interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign countries. They inspired and supported Israel's barbaric aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian population. The United States is persistently involving its NATO partners and Japan in its aggressive preparations for war on the socialist countries.

These are the complex and alarming circumstances in which the "Shield 82" maneuvers are taking place. This exercise is not aimed at any country neighboring Bulgaria or any other country. It is entirely consistent with the nature of the coordinated actions of our parties and governments in the international arena, aimed at safeguarding the peace and preventing a destructive thermonuclear war. In the course of the maneuvers the interaction among commands, staffs and troops will be perfected and the friendship and cooperation among the fraternal armies will be strengthened even further.

[Question] As commander of the "Shield 82" maneuvers, you, Comrade Minister, had the opportunity of visiting the camps of the fraternal armies. How do you assess the preparations of the troops for the exercise and the moral and political qualities they displayed?

[Answer] The slogan of the "Shield 82" exercise is extremely clear and categorical: "United in Peace and in Battle in Defending the Cause of Socialism." This appeal has mobilized the physical and spiritual forces of the fraternal armies so that they may prove their worth in the course of the maneuvers. In the course of my encounters with them I came across a number of displays of high conscientiousness and feeling of responsibility, fraternal cooperation and mutual aid and readiness to surmount all difficulties in carrying out assignments. I saw for myself the high level training of commanders, staffs and troops and their ability to organize and carry out modern combat operations. I saw their excellent mastery of weaponry and combat equipment and the high moral and political spirit of the troops.

[Question] What is the role of the "Shield 82" exercise in strengthening the fraternal friendship between the Bulgarian people and the peoples of the other socialist countries and the unity among the Warsaw Pact armies?

[Answer] The press, radio and television showed the way hospitable Bulgaria welcomed the troops of the fraternal armies--according to the ancient Bulgarian custom of offering them bread and salt, with smiles and flowers, the way we welcome loyal friends and comrades in arms. I believe that these characteristic celebrations will be remembered a long time and will leave a lasting trace in the minds and hearts of all citizens and soldiers.

The various activities in all camps may be described as fraternal meetings! These were meetings among Komsomol and party-political workers and commanding personnel from the various branches of the armed forces. Evenings dedicated to combat friendship, concerts, and youth entertainments were organized. The personnel of the allied armies visited many industrial enterprises and agro-industrial complexes and historical monuments. They met with labor collectives, which contributed to the even greater strengthening of the friendship among our peoples and armies.

Every meeting revealed the reciprocal love and trust and great recognition of and respect for the representatives of the legendary and invincible Soviet army. No other attitude was possible, for it is the Soviet armed forces that are the backbone of our military defensive alliance.

Combat Mood In Maneuvers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Capt Pet'o Dafinkichev and Capt Lyubomir Denov]

[Text] Maneuvers area. (By telephone from our special correspondents). Numbered hours are left before the beginning of the "battle." Daily life in the exercise area has changed. It is calmer and quieter in the camps but this cannot conceal the prestarting tension. Active and fruitful party-political work is being conducted among the personnel of the fraternal armed forces.

The Word of the Communists

In the early morning Officer Tesardzik, a political worker in the Czechoslovak People's Army, is directing the work of a group which has just completed checking the status of the internal order in the camp. He shows us the plan for party-political work and visual agitation, and puts us in touch with political workers and Komsomol activists. The first day of the week is dedicated to political training classes. So far, with the help of prepared material and essays published in the latest issues of NARODNA ARMIYA the soldiers have studied the history of the fraternal armies. Every second day talks are given on topical international problems. Every day company commanders or personnel excelling in combat and political training provide a brief review of the latest news.

The party meeting which was held had a strong mobilizing effect on the party members encouraging them to perform with excellence their exercise assignments.

Officer Prokopovich, party organization secretary, is a communicative person who has mastered perfectly the skill of working with people. He arranged a meeting with the party members who spoke out at the meeting. Here is what they said:

Officer Zacharias: "I studied the attitude of the party members toward basic problems of preparing for combat operations. I explained the tasks to be carried out. I raised the question of personal example. The party member must lead, he must be found in the most difficult areas. I passed on to the tank forces the warm greetings and wishes of Army General Martin Dzur, our minister of defense."

Officer Sichak: "I told the party members that I believe in them and that they too can rely on my word. I know them well and I have no doubt that they will do everything possible to excel in the forthcoming important test."

Senior Lieutenant Fridrich: "I expressed the view of my colleagues--junior commanders--that the spirit in the collectives is high, the engines are combat ready and the assignments will be carried out."

Sergeant (Betsak): I spoke on behalf of the Komsomol members. I expressed my belief that the activists and excellent soldiers will be the closest helpers of commanders and political workers in the forthcoming combat operations."

The Resolve of the Komsomol Members

All Komsomol members of the guards motor infantry company of Senior Lieutenant Isupov concentrated on the field Lenin room. Some of them came from the park, others from the sports grounds and most of them straight from duty.

The agenda of the meeting was the adoption of an appeal of the tank men from the company of Guards Senior Lieutenant Volokhin, pledging perfect execution of assignments during the maneuvers. The appeal was posted on the bulletin board in the center of the camp and had been read by every single member of this united collective.

In the few minutes before the meeting we had the opportunity to talk with Guards Lieutenant Revezin, deputy company commander in charge of political affairs. He could not conceal his excitement. He held a small notebook in his hands. It probably contained his statement: "I have been serving in the ranks for 2 months," he said. "I am a graduate of the Novosibirsk Higher Military Political School. I was assigned to this unit at the peak of the preparations for the maneuvers. I have the theoretical knowledge but for the past 2 months I have been among the troops night and day so that we can jointly resolve all problems affecting us."

Yes, this Siberian, a young officer from Omsk, had to work hard. The company has troops from 15 different nationalities. They were united and all of them wanted to learn but were unable to achieve a grade better than good. "It is embarrassing to approach this great exercise in which we are considered as representing the most powerful and leading army of socialism with merely good results," Lieutenant Revezin said.

The pledges had to be reviewed and further possibilities had to be sought. Laggards had to be assigned to excellent soldier, discipline had to be tightened up and constant exigency had to be displayed. "In the course of the testing exercises prior to leaving for Bulgaria we earned an overall excellent grade," said the lieutenant, smiling. "However, we became excited after the appeal of the tank men. They will be advancing ahead of us. Should they decide to increase the pace we must not allow any break or violation of the proper distance. That is the reason for this meeting. If we pledge our word we are sure that we will honor it."

The meeting began. We felt how the confidence of the motorized infantrymen increased through invisible means. This foretold of the final results. Guards Private First Class Podolyaka, Komsomol Committee secretary, opened the meeting.

The first speaker was Lieutenant Revezin. He opened the notebook we mentioned. It turned out that it did not contain any report or any writing but most ordinary things: what was pledged and what, in his view, could be achieved further. There was not even a question of any possibility that the appeal may be rejected. The wish was to be more successful than those who "threw down the gauntlet." This would be a complete victory. This was the idea which captured everyone and eliminated unnecessary delays.

Master Sergeant Komar, a Ukrainian from the Donbass, discussed the matter of discipline in the offensive. He discussed not the type of discipline they had already achieved but combat discipline which would keep their armored lines tight. Private Tsay, a short man with a dark face, reminded them that they must check their engines yet once again. Party member Kocharov described how to cross a steep rocky sector and the best side, in his view, along which to drop into the ravine. The company commander agreed.

Very little was mentioned concerning the challenge of the tank command. However, when the time to accept it came all hands were raised simultaneously.

After the meeting we sat down on the bench in front of the field club. The camp was still noisy. Other resolved but necessary and useful problems were being discussed. Then fatigue took over. Rest was needed, for difficult days, days of trials, lay ahead.

Signal Corps Activities

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Capt Engineer Nikolay Trayanov]

[Text] The communication units commanded by Officers Yuriy Ribin and Petur Dinev have provided impeccable communications in all directions for many days. It was somewhat difficult at the beginning, until they could become organized and the tall masts of the antennas would be raised and begin to whisper in their unintelligible code. Now the cables are properly laid out in pairs and in the various directions, the microtelephone sets are vibrating from the male voices and Russian, German, Hungarian, Polish, Czech and Bulgarian speech reaches the earphones. Everywhere surrounding the signals equipment we come across soldiers wearing different uniforms and with different duties and ranks. However, all of them are concentrated on the signaling lights, tensely watching instrument indicators. Brief arguments develop regarding the tactical and technical possibilities of the equipment, the qualitative and prompt opening of communications channels and their use. The most lively situation prevails at the regulating-technical group commanded by Officer Nikolay Khrulev. Sr Lts Vasiliy Chechenkov and Maksim Penkov exchanged views on reliably securing and directing the relay antennas. While the two officers are arguing, Ensign Grigoriy Mirgorodskiy has already positioned the entire antenna with its securing bolts and nuts. The Bulgarian soldiers have something to learn from their Soviet brothers.

I met the Soviet officer Sr Lt Vasiliy Chechenkov at the party field club, in the course of a game of chess. When the game ended in a draw or, as St Lt Cherchenkov said "In no one's favor but a good game," I was still speculating on what this young and ambitious commander was commanding. I tried in vain to recall everything I had seen at the Soviet communications center. I had not met this officer previously, which confused me even further. I could not even assume that this 25-year-old strapping young man with a wide smiling face and deep blue eyes facing me may be commanding an autonomous station. Whereas facing the chessboard he appeared tense, here, "at home" his eyes confidently roamed along the innumerable dials. His hands frequently crossed as he handled the equipment, until one needle or another would settle in the green sector, after which his long fingers would resume their rush along the various knobs. He was followed by Sr Lt Maksim Penkov. It is difficult to tune up the station on the very first try but the commander of the crew was there. His nods of approval indicated that so far everything was in order. This was followed by new explanations and quick sketches, until the Morse signals started to come out stronger and clearer.

Unquestionably, the experience exchanged during the joint maneuvers will contribute to the further development of the signal troops.

Platoon Activities

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Col Petko Radoev]

[Text] In the unit in which Officer Petrov serves, I noted with pleasure the model organization and strict internal order in the field camp. Everywhere one could feel the great enthusiasm with which the troops impeccably carried out their assignments.

The hot September day was drawing to an end when the powerful sounds of a soldiers' song were heard in the direction of the motor pool. Then the marching platoon commanded by Lieutenant Engineer Stamatov appeared. The smiles on the faces of the soldiers clearly revealed that everyone was pleased with the daily achievements.

The conversation with the platoon commander began easily. At the very beginning one could sense his pleasure at the opportunity he had been given to test himself and his subordinates in such an important exercise. He mostly spoke of the work of his soldiers, expressing his admiration at the impeccable actions of Commanders Todorov and Petrov, who are not only able to mobilize their crews but to lead them skillfully in the struggle for excellent results.

The comradeship in arms developed in this platoon is strong, proven by time and difficulties. It is a bulwark for everyone and a guarantee that in difficult moments no one would be left alone.

Komsomol members with excellent rating shared valuable experiences during an evening dedicated to excellent soldiers. Their personal example and dedication in carrying out their official duties play a particularly important role today in developing a feeling of high responsibility.

Innovation and creativity have become the meaning and content of the work of this young commander. His aspiration is to be in step with contemporary requirements in the training and education of the troops. Also typical of Lieutenant Engineer Stamatov is his ability to use the experience of his seniors and his subordinates, which he not merely duplicates but improves on and develops further.

Each crew has a responsible Komsomol member in charge who helps the commander in the overall training, discipline and mutual aid among Komsomol members.

The platoon displayed high combat skills and acted impeccably in carrying out assignments. The platoon commander analyzes for his subordinates in detail the actions of the individual crews, sets the best one as an example and discusses even the slightest omissions in detail. He points out the individual elements in the course of combat operations, trying not to omit anything which might adversely affect their excellent success.

The days and hours in this united combat collective pass rapidly in the struggle against difficulties and trials, in the course of which the platoon commander and the entire personnel strengthen and mature as they surmount them.

Along with the great excitement triggered by the joint actions with our brothers in arms we note an aspiration, a great tension, decisiveness and a great spiritual strength.

Hungarian Army Day

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 28 Sep 82 p 3

[Report by Lt Col Dimitur Atanasov]

[Text] Maneuvers area, 27 September (by telephone from our special correspondent). Today representative groups of all fraternal armies preparing for the "Shield 82" maneuvers came to the camp of the Hungarian People's Army to celebrate jointly Hungarian Army Day--29 September.

The ceremony was attended by Lt Gen Ferenc Karpati, chief of the Main Political Administration of the Hungarian People's Army and deputy minister of defense of the Hungarian People's Republic.

Officer Lajos Moroc delivered a short report on the combat path of the Hungarian People's Army.

Greetings to the troops and commanders of the Hungarian People's Army on behalf of the fraternal armies were presented by Lt Gen Mitko Mitkov, first deputy chief of the Main Political Administration of the Bulgarian People's Army. He wished the Hungarian troops new successes in combat skills and successful performance in the "Shield 82" maneuvers. Greetings were also presented by Yanko Demirev, secretary of the obshtina party committee.

Representatives of the other fraternal armies as well greeted the Hungarian soldiers.

Lieutenant General Karpati thanked for the greetings and the beautiful spirit of these combat celebrations of friendship during the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

Description of 'Shield 82' Maneuvers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Sep 82 pp 1-2

[Text] Maneuvers area, 28 September (BTA). Starting with this day the "Shield 82" maneuvers of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member countries entered its most important phase: the "days of combat" which will be the supreme test of the skill, moral and political qualities and physical and mental endurance of troops and commanders of the allied armed forces. During these days the ideological-political unity, unified strategy and tactics, brotherhood in arms and friendship among the members of the Warsaw Pact defensive military and political alliance will be manifested vividly.

The "Shield 82" maneuvers are being held against the background of a difficult international situation. The responsibility for the increased tension in Europe and throughout the world falls on the aggressive imperialist forces in the United States and the other NATO countries, whose policy aims at eliminating the positive results of detente, disturbing the existing balance of forces and impose a new dangerous arms race. Their adventuristic foreign policy and military actions are creating the threat of an annihilating nuclear conflict.

The thoughtlessness of imperialism is countered by the unity and power of the fraternal Warsaw Pact members. The peace program for the 1980s, proclaimed at the 26th CPSU Congress, the foreign policy initiatives of the Bulgarian People's Republic for good neighborly relations on the Balkans and the conversion of this area into a nuclear-free zone and the policy pursued by the other socialist countries offer a stable foundation for resolving arguments peacefully, reducing tension, disarmament, and strengthening understanding and cooperation among nations. The Warsaw Pact members threaten no one with the "Shield 82" maneuvers. Their purpose is to upgrade the defense capability of the fraternal socialist countries. The Bulgarian People's Republic, on whose territory "Shield 82" is taking place, will continue to make its contribution to the common efforts aimed at stabilizing the international situation, detente and peace. At the same time, our country will make its contribution to strengthening the power of the joint armed forces--the reliable defenders of the constructive efforts of the members of the socialist comity.

Arriving in the early hours of the day in the area of the initial combat operations were Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and State Council chairman.

Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo members and minister of national defense, commander of the maneuvers, reported to him that the units and subunits of the fraternal armies were ready to begin to carry out their assignments.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov was accompanied by Milko Balev, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and BCP Central Committee secretary, Pencho Kubadinski, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Fatherland Front National Council, and Petur Tanchev, BZNS secretary and first deputy chairman of the State Council.

Also present were heads of departments of the BCP Central Committee, members of the government, first secretaries of okrug BCP committees, heads of socio-political and mass organizations, social and cultural personalities, and Bulgarian and foreign journalists.

Equally present were Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member countries, Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces, and military delegations from the socialist countries attending the exercise.

The first combat day began with operations by ground and air forces of the allied armies. Before striking the first blow, the air force reconnoitered "enemy" targets and objectives. The information provided by the fliers led by First Class Flier Capt Yordanov, transmitted through radio engineering facilities were of exceptional importance. With their help the staffs refined the basic "enemy" targets to be hit and corrected assignments.

The troops had occupied their launching areas and positions during the night. Under the cover of Soviet fighter bombers they began to move forward. However, the "enemy" did not remain idle. He used radio jamming in an effort to disorganize the movement of the troops toward the front lines and disturb their control. Many of the actions in this initial stage of the battle could not be seen, such as those of radio engineering and troop reconnaissance. Also invisible to the outside observer was the work of the communications troops, without which no battle control is possible. Whenever it is a question of offensive or defense, each type of combat has a streamlined communications system which includes a great variety of communications facilities.

The thunder of the jets increased and the battle gathered strength. Under artillery fire cover and air force strikes, the troops approached the attack lines. An advancing rocket battery accurately hit the most important "enemy" targets. Rockets, aircraft bombs and artillery shells traced their fiery trajectories. The entire area was shaken up by their thunder. Innumerable accurate hits opened the way to the advancing forces. The artillery preparations for the attack involved the participation of the unit in which Officer Bozhkov serves. A volley fired by the excellent artillerymen commanded by Sr Lt Deyan Dimitrov blended with the volleys of their comrades in arms from the Soviet and GDR armed forces.

The air force steadily covered the advance and deployment of the units. Excellent operations were scored by the Bulgarian air force, headed by First Class Flier Officer Parapunov. On their side were their comrades in arms from the Soviet armed forces, headed by Officer Reshetnikov, flier first class. They demonstrated their excellent flying skills and interaction both between them and with the ground forces. This is not the first time that Bulgarian and Soviet fliers have enhanced their combat skills in joint actions!

Using its long-range artillery and air force, the "enemy" tried to block the rapid advance toward its front defensive lines. A fierce air combat was joined. The struggle for control of the air was as tense as the battle on the ground! The artillery and tanks assigned for direct hits opened fire. Meanwhile, the engineering subunits opened passages in the obstacles erected in front of the defensive lines. The tension on the "battlefield" rose with every passing minute. The "enemy" answered the fire and tried to detect the plan and direction of the main strike of the advancing forces. At the same time, the artillery and the air force moved the fire in depth. There were no insurmountable obstacles to the perfectly trained socialist forces.

An attack on the run--fast and daring--was mounted. There was excellent interaction between tank and motorized infantry forces, the artillery and the

air force. A Soviet army unit commanded by Officer Myachev was in the battle ranks of the advancing troops. With its accurate fire and elan it opened the way to the carriers of the motorized infantry unit of the GDR National People's Army, commanded by Officer Schendel. Its troops attacked without haste. They were followed by the command centers in combat vehicles. The battle control was close to the action.

The self-propelling artillery also moved to firing positions. The second echelons and reserves moved forward as well. The anti-aircraft cover of the advancing forces was secured by powerful modern anti-aircraft weapons which moved in combat order and destroyed the "enemy" in motion. They included the anti-aircraft forces commanded by Senior Lieutenant Gankochenko, the excellent Soviet army men Sergeants Derevencha and Kuuinskas and excellent marksman Private Malesh.

The battle became even fiercer, tenser and more violent. The offensive was developed in depth by the forces of the Czechoslovak, Polish and Hungarian armed forces. The Hungarian forces had celebrated their Army Day on 29 September. Polish military air transport appeared on the horizon. At the precisely determined time they landed forces behind "enemy" lines to assist the advancing forces. The sky turned white from the hundreds of parachutes. The leading airplane was piloted by First Class Flier Officer Plikhta with Navigator Officer Sharshabitov. On the ground, Officer Verbilis, commander of the paratroop subunit, quickly led into battle the red beret forces.

The Czechoslovak army tank unit in which Officer Sicak serves quickly deployed and advanced. The actions of the Hungarian unit in which Officer Bosis serves were irrepressible. The units of the fraternal armies interacted with exceptional precision. Many of their commanding officers are graduates of Soviet military academies.

In accordance with the plan the second echelons were committed. Using the success of the advancing forces in piercing the defense, the troops surmounted the "enemy" resistance and continued their headlong advance.

The first day of the "Shield 82" maneuvers, in which the troops of the allied armies participated, proved the exceptionally high combat skills, offensive thrust, unbreakable spirit and total coordination of activities. It was an irreplaceable political and combat school for education and military growth.

Artillery Action in Maneuvers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Sep 82 p 2

[Report by Capt Pet'o Dafinkichev]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent).

Along the artillery positions the breech mechanisms made a dry clicking sound. A hand holding a red flag was raised high. The radioman pressed his earphones

close to his ears. Officer Vladimir Savinkov concentrated on the seconds arm of the second meter. Tension has risen to its maximum level.

Gunner Guards Jr Sgt Vasiliy Bishiru is holding his breath. This is a day of particular importance to him. He feels he has no right to allow even the slightest error. Firing from concealed positions is difficult. However, he is ready to give his best to carry out his combat assignment.

Equally excited are the brothers Guards Jr Sgts Mikhail and Aleksandr Brovchenko. Sasha commands a reconnaissance section while Misha is a range finder.

Komsomol Agitator Guards Sgt Anatoliy Miskevich, from Belorussia, is biting his lips. In the chest pocket of his jacket he carries a copy of the pledges of Komsomol members made during the meeting the previous evening. All of them are pledges to achieve excellent results. Will they be able to congratulate themselves for having fulfilled the pledges? He has faith in his comrades and tries to block all surprises. Still, anything could happen....

Loader Alikashin Musayev is already holding the second shell. Five days ago he celebrated here his birthday, something he will never forget!

Once again Officer Valeriy Zvezda computes in his mind the start of the fire, five volleys with different spacing. This is followed by fire cover of the attack. The shelling must be smooth, with a safe distance maintained.

Excellent Guards Sgt Aleksandr Poryadnikov, commander of the signals section, concentrates, after which with a clear and loud voice he gives the order to commence artillery fire. It was as though a tempest of steel broke out over the ground. The shells are seeking "enemy" fortifications. Black smoke rises.

Somewhere else our forces are advancing in a column. They cross the lines and break up into battalions, companies and platoons. Meter after meter, and shoulder to shoulder Bulgarian, GDR and Soviet army troops are approaching hour "H." Until then the artillery fire must destroy the enemy targets in order to lower "casualties," not to delay the pace of the tank and motorized infantry advance and carry out the daily assignment in the course of which "the god of war" will have his decisive say.

A sudden but intoxicating silence falls. I approach Guards Sr Lt Aleksandr Volkov, a battery commander. His eyes are shining happily, from which I understand that everything is in order. I shout louder than is necessary, asking him how the assignment was carried out. He lifts the thumb of his right hand--excellent!

The artillerymen come out of the trenches. They are pleased and talk loudly. However, this lasts a few minutes only, after which they are back at their howitzers. They have barely the time for an embrace and a strong handshake. The battle ahead has not ended. New assignments follow: consecutive and concentrated fire in depth, combined fire support methods and a mobile fire zone.

The wave of fire rises again, expected and necessary! The battle ends. The empty shells are still smoking and the faces are still sweating. The fatigue is not felt yet and the pledge has been fulfilled. I asked Guards Sgt Yuriy Matorzhanskiy, the commander of the best gun crew of the day, if he is pleased with the congratulations received.

"Yes, I am pleased that we were able to prove once again what we can do," he answered. "But what pleases me the most is that we are all together and that we worked hard with the Bulgarian artillerymen. It is a good thing to feel that troops from seven equally worthy fraternal armies are striving toward victory, loyal to peace and socialism. This entails great obligations."

I looked at the smiling faces around me. How different they are and yet how united they are in the enthusiasm of their victory. Their wave of fire greatly contributed to the total defeat of the "enemy" in this sector.

Conversation with Czechoslovak Officer

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Capt Lyubomir Denov]

[Text] During these tense days Lt Juri Konecni can always be found among his troops. Their assignments are numerous but his face shows neither fatigue nor the traces of great stress. It is precisely the opposite--his entire tight body radiates optimism and a good mood. He is proud and happy to have deserved the right to participate in "Shield 82," knowing that only the best troops and commanders of the friendly armies were assigned to participate in the joint combat operations.

Juri loves his military profession, which came from his veneration since childhood of the heroism of the troops commanded by Gen L. Svoboda and his respect for and attention to the work of the people who were successfully educated by his parents, who were experienced educators. He is happy to serve in a Czechoslovak-Polish friendship unit, which was recently awarded the high Order of the Red Star and the Red Banner of the Czechoslovak Komsomol Central Committee. The award was granted for the fact that for 4 years running the unit was first among leading units in the Czechoslovak People's Army.

A while back the military collective was assigned the task of struggling for fuel conservation. The first decision made by the unit was to save 10 percent compared with the norm. However, the party members in Lieutenant Konecni's subunit estimated that they could save not 10 but 12 percent. Their appeal was unanimously adopted and the task was carried out. Platoon Commander J. Konecni was one of those who launched the idea and worked with a maximal effort to carry it out.

"What has been your greatest success in your career so far?"

"My platoon achieved particularly great success in the combat fire practice during a company tactical training and the Dukla exercise. These were the peaks in my work."

"What did you think of the Bulgarian soldiers and the Bulgarians in general?"

"I had an excellent opinion of Bulgaria and its people but my expectations were outstripped. You, Bulgarians, are rarely good people. That is what I will tell my friends in Czechoslovakia, that they are exceptionally good people! I can feel your sincerity and directness."

"Do you think that your participation in 'Shield 82' will represent another peak in your difficult career as an officer?"

"I am confident that we shall at least duplicate our previous high results. I have faith in my soldiers, the wonderful Soviet machines and myself."

Behind 'Enemy' Lines

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Col Stefan Rikov]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent).

The "combat" operations have been underway for several hours. The battle for supremacy on the ground and in the air has remained unabated. Our forces as well as the "enemy" are making skillful use in the "battle" of modern airplanes, artillery and combat equipment.

Although this is an exercise, the dynamics and rapidly changing circumstances force every commanding officer to be on the lookout. Delays and underestimates may prove to be fatal. The participating forces are investing all their efforts, skill and combat mastery to gain the superiority they need so badly.

This autumn day is restless. The air is shuddering from the noise of airplanes and helicopters and is repeatedly pierced by shells and bullets. Also shaking is the ground which is carrying the load of exploding shells and aviation bombs and the weight of tanks and combat vehicles.

The noise of the decisive clash between the forces is uninterrupted over the rugged terrain shrouded in dust and gunpowder smoke. All this is so close to real combat as to confuse anyone unfamiliar with the circumstances.

Soviet, German, Hungarian, Romanian and Polish troops are acting precisely and in close coordination on the "battlefield." It is here, in the course of the "battle," under circumstances resembling real battle, that they are improving their practical skills. This can be seen in the control actions, the full use of material facilities and the exchange of useful experience....

Let me describe the activities of the Polish paratroopers. I recently had the opportunity to study their peacetime training. Now, their activities during the exercise, are really interesting.

According to the intention of the command, their task was to capture an area behind "enemy" lines and hold it until the arrival of the main forces.

This was a difficult and important task which called for ensuring all the necessary conditions for reliably overwhelming the "enemy" occupying the area, taking all the necessary security measures and displaying daring, cunning and decisiveness in the landing operations. The next few minutes convinced me that my acquaintances met these conditions.

After securing air supremacy, our aviation made it possible for the transport aircraft, which carried the landing subunits, to fly over the area. Then the skies above us turned white from the blossoming parachutes dropping the Polish paratroopers. From the air these daring troops opened fire on detected ground targets and sought a suitable landing area.

The paratroopers were coming down quickly and smoothly. Hitting the ground, they eliminated the stubbornly defending "enemy" troops with fire and hand to hand combat. Without gathering the scattered parachutes, the paratroopers from the companies of Officers Janusz Zacziczki and Jan Flinta energetically widened the occupied area and prepared themselves for active defense. Every soldier displayed speed, skill and cunning. Despite the fierce resistance, the paratroops of excellent platoons commanded by Officers Marek Zardecki, Tadeusz Penkowski and their comrades successfully widened the area of activities. Without fuss and skillfully they destroyed the "enemy" weapon emplacements which the air force and artillery fire had failed to suppress while, at the same time, ensuring themselves against possible surprises and creating secure cover facing the directions from which "enemy" reserves could approach.

Sergeants Kaik and Szwedoda displayed particular dexterity in rendering a discovered command center harmless. With their sudden and decisive actions they surprised the people in the center and neutralized them promptly.

Indeed a great deal could be told about these two sergeants. They have served a long time in the subunit commanded by Officer Stanislaw Mazurkevicz and for many years they have helped their superiors in training young paratroopers. They each have more than 5,000 parachute jumps and have earned the high title of "Master of Sports" in parachute jumping. In the course of the exercise and behind "enemy" lines, once again they displayed their superb qualities, leading their comrades.

The paratroopers from the companies commanded by Officers Flinta and Zacziczki had to hold the area for a number of hours. They were able to cope with this difficult assignment. They considerably hampered "enemy" control, and prevented him from sending fresh forces to the hard-pressed front line, thus considerably assisting their own advancing troops in carrying out their assignment successfully.

Many paratroopers distinguished themselves in the area they occupied. Particularly skillful were the actions of Excellent Soldiers Andrzej Madej, Jezi Skrajna, Antony Zemba, Zbigniew Zebro, Kszcziszczo Zak and many others.

In close interaction with the troops of the other fraternal army subunits, the Polish paratroopers carried out their assignment perfectly.

Combined Operation

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Sep 82 p 2

[Report by Lt Col Dimitur Atanasov]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent).

The war vehicles are concealed by the high corn stalks. Further behind, between the rows of trees and at the edge of thick oak copses, under the camouflage nets, the artillery batteries are ready. The "enemy" has made equally lengthy and persistent preparations.

The reconnaissance air force has reconnoitered "enemy" targets and sites. The group of airplanes is headed by First Class Flier Captain Yordanov.

The first echelon subunits start their advance. They are covered by fighter-bomber aircraft of the Soviet armed forces. However, the "enemy" is not idle. With radio disturbances it is trying to disorganize control.

The thunder of the battle is intensifying. An advancing rocket battery strikes at important enemy targets. The volleys of rocket launchers thunder threateningly. Artillery fire is covering the advance of tanks and war vehicles. Participating in the artillery preparations is the subunit in which Officer Bozhkov serves. The first volley is that of the howitzers commanded by Senior Lieutenant Tanev. They are manned by Junior Sergeant Kavaldzhiev, howitzer commander and Gunner Private First Class Petkov, both rated excellent in combat and political training. Their volley merges with that of the Soviet and GDR artillery.

The actions of the fliers led by First Class Flier Officer Parapunov are confident and precise. Together with his Soviet colleagues from the unit in which Officer Reshetnikov serves, a first class flier and master of accurate fire, they prove their excellent familiarity with their airplanes and excellent interaction. The power of the fire strike increases steadily. Using long-range artillery and aviation the "enemy" tries to disorganize and delay the approach of the advancing forces toward the front lines of defense. An air battle is joined. The struggle for air superiority is as tense and important as the battle on the ground.

One of the strong aspects of defense in modern combat is its high saturation with antitank weapons. That is why the task of the advancing forces is to

suppress them as securely as possible, for this would secure the speed of the attack. This is achieved with the help of tanks and direct laying artillery. According to reconnaissance data the target has been reached and the advancing forces attack without distancing themselves from the vehicles. The battle order ensures the high speed and maneuverability of the subunits, low exposure to all types of fire and the possibility of making the fullest possible use of the fire and striking power of the tanks and infantry war vehicles. Under fire cover the engineering subunits open passages among the obstacles for the advancing forces.

This action along the front involves the forces of the Bulgarian People's army; the right flank is held by GDR motorized infantry and tank subunits while the left flank is held by Soviet army subunits. The battle order includes a USSR tank battalion commanded by Major Mayachev. Excellent operations are conducted by the company commanded by Captain Pavlichenko, with mechanic-driver Private Vasilchuk. They are ensuring the advance of the GDR motorized infantry battalion commanded by Officer Stenzel.

The first wave of the attacking war vehicles has reached the front end of the "enemy's" defense at the exactly stipulated time.

The hour "H" has come. Attack!...

The attack is swift and daring and, in its own way, beautiful. It is carried out by troops whose armor and barrels follow the direction of the red arrows marked on staff maps, indicating the direction of the attack.

The attackers are followed by the artillery batteries and the second echelons and reserves which occupy the new positions. Anti-aircraft cover is needed everywhere and at all times. This includes the participation of the battery commanded by Senior Lieutenant Gannochenko, with Excellent Commanders of War Vehicles Sergeants Kazakov and Kuchinskas and Master of Anti-Aircraft Fire Private Malish.

The development of the offensive in depth is continued by Hungarian, Czechoslovak and Polish subunits. Particularly impressive is the landing from the air behind "enemy" lines under the command of Officer Jan Verbilis. Facing the counterattacking "enemy" are Soviet crews and Bulgarian engineering sub-units which make skillful use of the topography and set up mine fields.

A Czechoslovak tank battalion and Hungarian war vehicles and the unit in which Officer Boshich serves, swiftly advance and deploy.

Reserves are committed as previously decided. Pressing on, the advancing forces surmount persistent "enemy" resistance and continue their advance.

,, , Perhaps the lights in headquarter tents and war vehicles will remain lit throughout the night. The staffs will work, analyze, compute and help commanders in making new daring decisions governing the actions of the troops.

Joint Command

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Sep 82 p 2

[Report by Capt Engineer Valentin Minev, NARODNA ARMIYA correspondent]

[Text] The flight controller and the detail are the first to assume their positions at the flight takeoff command center. This is also practiced during the "Shield 82" maneuvers. What is different is the number of flight controllers and the size of the detail.

Every day three members of three armies--Bulgarian, Soviet and Polish--meet at the start command center of N Airfield. They are Capt Ivan Enchev and Officers Nikolay Zamkovoy and Edward Kwiatkowski. From dawn to dusk the same words are heard in Bulgarian, Russian and Polish:

"Permission to take off granted!"

An airplane takes off after each such command. The assignments may be different but they are under the same Bulgarian skies. Senior Lieutenant Mitrev, Captain Ilchev, Captain Mikhalkov and the flight commanded by Capt Anatoliy Martinovchenko participate in the exercise and share the airfield. Both on the ground and in the air their airplanes are wingtip to wingtip.

The takeoff command center is small but this is unnoticed by the members of the international control. The most important thing during their free time is to become better acquainted with each other.

Ivan, Nikolay and Edward are of different ages, ranks and positions. However, their training is the same--military pilots first class and equally confident in issuing their orders to Bulgarian, Soviet and Polish fliers. From their fraternal takeoff command center, in the course of the flight exercise conducted in three languages, they control the "combat" operations of part of the air force participating in the maneuvers, checking off one after the other on their plan tables the performed assignments.

Hungarian Army Day

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Sep 82 p 3

[Text] Today the fraternal Hungarian people and their armed defenders and, with them, the forces of the fraternal Warsaw Pact armies celebrate a great holiday--Hungarian People's Army Day. The day was not selected at random. On 29 September 1948 [sic] the Hungarian troops led by the legendary Lajos Kosut won a decisive victory over the Austrian enslavers.

Today's Hungarian People's Army, the precious child of the Hungarian Communist Party, was created on 23 December 1944 with the fraternal selfless aid of the Soviet Union. Its nucleus was the Hungarian volunteers regiment which fought shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet armed forces in the battles for the

liberation of Budapest in January 1945. Subsequently, two Hungarian divisions fought for the liberation of Austria from the Hitlerite fascists.

The Hungarian People's Army is an entirely modern armed force which can reliably defend its country and people from any foreign aggression. It is equipped with the latest weapons and combat materiel handled by highly trained troops loyal to the MSZMP [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party] and their people. As a worthy member of the powerful fraternal family of the Warsaw Pact armies, on its holiday the Hungarian People's Army is vigilantly and firmly holding its combat post in defending the great cause of socialism.

Guards Capt Vladimir Khusarov, commander of Excellent Motorized Infantry Company: It is a nice thing that all of us together have the opportunity to celebrate the great day of our comrades in arms--the soldiers of the Hungarian People's Army. The present exercise convinced us yet once again that they are true internationalists, loyal to the communist cause. Their army is equipped with the latest combat facilities and proved during the "Shield 82" maneuvers that it can resolve complex problems in modern all-army combat.

Our friendship with the Hungarian People's Army began during World War II, when Soviet and Hungarian army units jointly expelled fascism from Hungarian soil. Today, united within the powerful family of the Warsaw Pact armies, united in our resolve to defend peace, we congratulate them on the occasion of their holiday with all our hearts. We wish them further success in defending the gains of socialism in their homeland and a happy future for their industrious people.

Henryk Miszkel, Polish army political worker: The peoples of Hungary and Poland have always been warm friends and brothers. The troops of our socialist countries are firmly linked within a united alliance in the defense of socialism and carry out joint assignments in strengthening the power of the Warsaw Pact.

Dear Hungarian comrades, I am very pleased to be able to celebrate together with you your holiday during the "Shield 82" exercise and to carry out joint assignments with the other Warsaw Pact armies on hospitable Bulgarian soil.

We shall try to help the Hungarian tank men to carry out their assignment in the best possible manner. This will be our own gift to your anniversary.

Dear Hungarian comrades, on this day please accept on behalf of all commanders and paratroopers in our unit the warmest wishes for health, happiness and great success in combat and political training for the further strengthening of the combat power of the Warsaw Pact.

Master Sgt Stanislav Matea, Czechoslovak People's Army: The high school which I attended maintained friendly relations with a Hungarian school in Tatabanya. We organized frequent meetings which I shall remember for the rest of my days. That is how I learned to speak Hungarian. For many years I have corresponded with Peter Balasko, who is studying medicine in Budapest. We correspond and visit.

Today we are advancing shoulder to shoulder with the Hungarian soldiers. We have had several joint meetings in the course of which I developed a close friendship with Sgt Arpad Mandli. We shall be together with the Hungarian troops on the day of their anniversary. I use this opportunity to congratulate them most warmly and wish them success in battle and worthy representation of their armed forces in the "Shield 82" exercise.

Jr Sgt Yanko Vulev: In the course of our joint exercise we had the opportunity to meet with our Hungarian colleagues and to exchange experience in combat and political training. We held joint sports competitions and together attended youth dances. This enabled us to become even better acquainted and to become better aware of the value of our combat brotherhood.

Dear Hungarian soldiers, I am most pleased to congratulate you on the occasion of the 29 September anniversary of your armed forces. I congratulate you most warmly and wish you even greater successes in combat and political training and good health and happiness.

Sgt Peter Weisgerber, mechanic-tank driver, first grade class specialist, GDR: The assignments carried out in the course of the "Shield 82" maneuvers are important and difficult. They demand a great deal of physical, moral and mental stress. That is why I offer my warm congratulations to the troops of the Hungarian People's Army. I may not be able to find the most suitable words but wish to my comrades in arms above all great success in their noble cause. They are daring and courageous soldiers who have mastered the combat equipment to perfection, for which reason I am sure that they will justify the high trust placed in them during the exercise.

Celebration Ceremony

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 29 Sep 82 p 3

[Text] Last night a solemn evening was held at the Central Club of the People's Army on the occasion of the anniversary of the creation of the Hungarian People's Army.

The evening was attended by officers and military personnel from Sofia Garrison.

A short speech was delivered by Officer Binev, who emphasized that the Hungarian People's Army is a loyal defender of the socialist gains of the Hungarian people.

The greetings were answered by Col Laslo (D'orfi), military and air attache of the Hungarian Embassy in Bulgaria.

The speeches were followed by the showing of two short films describing the life and training of Hungarian troops (our own information).

Second Day of 'Shield 82' Maneuvers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 30 Sep 82 pp 1-2

[Text] Maneuvers area, 29 September (BTA). The "combat operations" of the "Shield 82" maneuvers are in their second day. They are being observed by Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and State Council chairman, comrades Dobri Dzhurov, commander of the exercise, Milko Balev, Pencho Kubadinski and Petur Tanchev, heads of BCP Central Committee departments, ministers, first secretaries of okrug BCP committees, and other officials.

Also present are military delegations from the socialist countries attending the exercise, Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member countries, and Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces.

A warm meeting was held before the "battle" between Comrade Todor Zhivkov and troops from the motorized infantry unit commanded by Officer Zhekov. The troops described their successes in combat and political training and their preparations for the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

After piercing the "enemy" defense yesterday, the forces of the fraternal allied armies are advancing in a rugged mountainous-forest area. Their actions are characterized by swift and decisive actions and close interaction.

Making skillful use of the topography, the "enemy" has set up a strong defense saturated with various long-term defensive installations. Along with their comrades in arms from the Soviet aviation, the Bulgarian fliers are reconnoitering the defenses in order to further determine the deployment of the defensive installations and the positions of the artillery, antitank weapons, reserves and other "enemy" targets. We are witnessing a display of high combat skill.

Fire preparations for the attack began. This was an exciting moment in the combat operations, an impressive demonstration of the strength and high combat readiness of the advancing allied forces. Loyal to the revolutionary traditions of their peoples, the troops of the fraternal armies are displaying their resolve inflexibly to defend the gains of the socialist comity. With its powerful fire the artillery is destroying the weapons, howitzers and other "enemy" weapons.

Suddenly, from behind the tree-covered mountain slope, combat helicopters appear, led by First Class Pilot Officer Andreev. Together with the helicopters of Officers Iliev, Slavkov, Marinov and others, they strike heavily at fortified areas and the dug-in "enemy" tanks.

During these decisive moments the fraternal interaction among the air forces of the friendly armies once again becomes clearly apparent. Wingtip to wingtip, within a single battle line, they are jointly bombing the "enemy", led by

First Class Soviet Pilot Officer Reshetnikov, Master of Accurate Fire Bulgarian Flier Tanev and his comrades. The actions of the fraternal air forces are exceptionally accurate and flexible.

The annihilating artillery fire goes on. With great precision the crews of the direct laying guns suppress the adamant resistance of the defenders. This allows the advancing forces to mount the attack. The tanks and the other war vehicles skillfully advance along the passages made in the "enemy" obstacles and deploy in a combat order. The attack begins at the stipulated time. Our forces destroy on the run remaining fire power and, interacting with the bypassing detachment, open a deeper wedge in "enemy" defense lines.

Above the mountain hills Soviet transport helicopters, led by First Class Pilot Officer Popov land troops to stop "enemy" reserves coming from behind and to contribute to the success of the advancing forces.

At such moments the increased skill of commanders and troops becomes clearly apparent. Even under most difficult circumstances they can act decisively, courageously and daringly. Proper mental and physical training, high ideological convictions and the will to carry out the assignment at all cost are characteristic features marking the actions of the advancing forces. They are the result of the developed skills and ability, field training, combat unity and high feeling of responsibility in the defense of socialism and peace.

The defenders are doing everything possible to stop the advance by fighting for each pass or path.

Officer Zhekov and his staff quickly assess the changing circumstance, maintain steady interaction among advancing subunits and skillfully and flexibly control the fire of the artillery, the air force and all other weaponry. The bypassing element commanded by Officer Tashev helps to consolidate and expand the initial success of those advancing in depth within "enemy" defenses through decisive actions under difficult mountain-forest conditions. Closely interacting with the paratroopers and the other forces advancing along the front, the bypassing detachment contributed to the successful implementation of the assignment.

In the afternoon as well the thunder of the airplanes and the explosion of bombs and artillery shells do not abate. The advancing forces, inspired by their success, are firmly imposing their will on the weakened "enemy" who tries to regroup his forces and to bring up deep reserves. Commanded by Officers Totev and Ninov, the advancing forces assess his intentions accurately and promptly. Their actions become increasingly accurate and confident.

Once again our airplanes take off. Their strafing and bombing "clear" a suitable area for the landing of airborne troops behind "enemy" lines. The strikes disturb enemy control and destroy his installations.

Closely interacting with their Bulgarian colleagues in the groups commanded by Officers Parapunov, Kalyukov and Popov, the Soviet fliers, led by Officers

Mantulenka and Kolvakhov, display enviable skill in hitting "enemy" targets. As they carry out their assignments, the thunder of a large number of helicopters shakes the air.

Medium and heavy transport helicopters swiftly advance toward the landing area. The groups led by Soviet Pilots Officers Bogachov, Lugovskiy and Mazanko, fulfill their combat assignment promptly. The landing forces they have brought capture the area within a short time and securely block approaching "enemy" reserves.

Meanwhile, pursuing the retreating forces, the leading detachments commanded by Officers Totev and Ninov advance swiftly. They open fire on the run. The increasing resistance of the defending forces force the troops of the advance outposts to deploy in battle order. With their skillful and decisive actions they open a battle area for the units behind them.

The "battle" tension is rising. Supported by artillery and air power, with close interaction and proper control, the advancing forces are implementing their assignment with increasing success. Shortly afterwards the subunits behind them are able to deploy along the secure lines and continue the offensive. They crush the "enemy" resistance and penetrate his battle lines more and more deeply.

The second battle day of the "Shield 82" maneuvers proved the exceptional skill of the involved troops. Under conditions maximally close to real combat they displayed their swiftness and aggressiveness, high combat spirit, excellent mastery of combat ordnance and armaments, international coordination and total reciprocal understanding. This was a combat day of unity, fraternity and readiness inflexibly to defend the cause of socialism and peace.

(BTA) Today Army General Lajos Czinege, Hungarian minister of defense, arrived for participation in the "Shield 82" maneuvers. He was welcomed by Col Gen Atanas Semerdzhiev, first deputy minister of national defense and chief of general staff of the Bulgarian People's Army, Col Gen Kiril Kosev, chief of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army, and BNA deputy ministers, generals and officers.

Also present were Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact, and Col Gen Karoi Czemi, secretary of state for defense of the Hungarian People's Republic and deputy head of the Hungarian military delegation.

Air Force Operations

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 30 Sep 82 p 1

[Article by Major Engineer Veselin Stoyanov]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent).

Initially, an isolated reconnaissance airplane rose over the battlefield. Shortly afterwards, a group led by First Class Pilot Officer Yordanov pursued this activity of exceptional importance to the advancing forces. Naturally, during that time the "enemy" did not stop to admire these flights but used a variety of means of disturbance to hinder the transmission of information. However, aerial reconnaissance carried out its assignments successfully.

Supersonic fighters covered the advance of the first echelon. The group included exclusively first class pilots from the Soviet air force unit in which Officer Ilarionov serves. This combat unit, which entered into fierce aerial combat with the fascist aggressors as early as July 1941, has a glorious history. A permanent member of its ranks is the hero pilot Timur Frunze, son of the famous Soviet military commander. Today's generation of air fighters, which includes First Class Pilots Officers Lisovitskiy, Morgenson, Plakhtiy, Martinovchenko, Marudin and many others, are worthily continuing the work of their great predecessors.

We entered into the dugouts. No more than 2 minutes later, the artillery and the air force will suppress and destroy with their powerful strikes the most important "enemy" targets, depriving him of the possibility of offering organized resistance to the advancing forces.

The earth is shaken by powerful artillery fire. Motorized infantry and tanks manned by Bulgarian, Soviet, Hungarian and GDR troops have already initiated their advance.

A strike groups of fighters-bombers, led by First Class Pilot Officer Pavlov, deals a powerful strike at an "enemy" missile battery. It is followed by the groups led by First Class Pilots Officers Parapunov and Karlyukov, which accurately strike other targets. Subsequently, the flights led by Officers Tsokov and Dikov, mop up what their comrades in arms began.

However, the "enemy" continues to resist. He sends a large group of airplanes which strike at our forces. An aerial battle breaks out over the "battlefield."

In the subsequent raid combat helicopters prove their great possibilities by striking at the "enemy" and acting below the trajectory of artillery shells.

"Are such joint activities with the artillery not risky?" I asked one of the group leaders before the battle. He calmly answered that everything will be alright. They began training for this responsible test as early as the beginning of the summer by coordinating group activities, and complex navigation singly and in a group with practice fire.

Indeed, the actions of the helicopter pilots are impeccable. They fly so low and close to us that I can see the numbers painted on most of them and can imagine the concentration of the pilots, operators and flight technicians.

I am still excited by the actions of the helicopters when a group of Soviet fighter bombers, which represent the highest accomplishments of contemporary aerospace design, swiftly fly toward the "enemy" and destroy targets at different depths. The first group is led by Officer Avenir Reshetnikov, a master of combat use of the aircraft.

The subsequent groups, led by First Class Pilots Officers Kolvakhov and Mantulenko, destroy important "enemy" targets with heavy bombs.

Soviet and Bulgarian tanks advance on our left and our right like a steel avalanche. The deafening fire, thunder of powerful engines, bomb explosion and machine gun fire can be heard. Infantry combat vehicles are advancing toward the "enemy" at high speed. From the air, Soviet and Bulgarian fighters continue to provide cover to the advancing subunits side by side. The same is accomplished by our troops and anti-aircraft rocket units.

The "enemy" continues to resist fiercely along his already set defense lines. Ground and aerial reconnaissance has refined the striking targets, identified enemy reserves and transmitted to the command centers reconnaissance data. Bulgarian and Soviet fighter bombers fly overhead at short intervals, striking at "enemy" artillery firing positions from different directions, at tank columns and other targets. "This is my third decade of service in the air force," a Polish officer next to me said with unconcealed admiration. "But this is the first time that I see such a mass use of different purpose groups."

Only a few minutes later I had the opportunity in turn to express my admiration at the actions of the Polish comrades in arms. A large group of transport aircraft showed up from the east, led by First Class Pilot Officer Plichta. His crew includes Officer Sharshabitov, whose navigational computations are accurate to the second. At the proper time the first paratrooper jumps followed by a second and a third.... Other paratroopers are jumping from the other airplanes.... The numerous domes holding troops with red berets are nearing the ground. The moment they land the daring paratroopers release their parachutes and join the battle without delay. They are closely interacting with Hungarian and Czechoslovak subunits.

Unconquerable power and swiftness, suddenness and precision, daring and mature technical thinking, comradeship in arms and interaction are a brief description of the combined actions of the air force in the course of this day of battle!

Destruction of Sea Mine

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgaria 30 Sep 82 pp 1-2

[Article by Sr Lt Vasil Danov, NARODNA ARMIYA correspondent]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our correspondent). "A sea mine to be destroyed at coordinates...." read the text of the radiogram. The first

thought which crossed the mind of Officer Rusinov was that this is one of the numerous moves prepared by the staff for the "Shield 82" maneuvers. However, the final word "actual" made him realize that it was a question of a real war mine. The mine caught by the drag of a fishing vessel or a navy ship tore itself off from its 10-year-old anchor and presented a serious danger to navigation in our waters, particularly now, when Bulgarian and Soviet forces are engaged in joint exercises. This is not a first occurrence, for 1 or 2 years ago the navy sailors in this unit had already felt the distant echo of the war.

Capt-Lt Milcho Tsolchovski immediately received the order to organize a blasting crew. Volunteers far exceeded demand. "Take me! Take me!" the seamen begged. This was a rare opportunity to display their skills and daring in fighting not a training but a real mine. "If you do not let me go I will jump into the boat!" threatened First Class Seaman Sapper Dimitur Popov. In addition to him, Captain-Lieutenant Tsolchovski selected Senior Lieutenant Iliev, recently promoted, Ensign Vanko Panayotov, Second Class Petty Officer Georgi Stamatov and the young Seaman Valentin Genov. Two teams were set up--the main and reserve.

Two fishing trollers commanded by Capts Trendafil Georgiev and Khristo Zhglov came to assist. They reached the mine at midnight, to replace the Soviet ship which had been guarding it until that time. Under the rays of the pale moon, its dark shape seemed even larger. These were dozens of kilograms of trotyl. Until the morning they circled around it, illuminating it with their searchlights. Even before sunrise the two blasting teams were in their boats.

"The electro-contact mine was covered with weeds. In addition to horns it had a kind of spikes we had never seen before. We assumed that it was of German manufacturing," Captain-Lieutenant Tsolchovski said.

They approached the dark sphere. The strong arms of Seaman First Class Popov kept in place the boat dragged by the waves toward the mine. The sea was relatively calm. Senior Lieutenant Iliev hooked the trotyl charge on the horns, unraveled the fuse fed by Captain-Lieutenant Tsolchovski. The fuse hissed warningly and the boat quickly retreated.

"Seeing the mine from afar I was somewhat frightened," Seaman First Class Popov admitted. "I told myself, this is no joke. Yet when we approached I calmed down. I had been told of such occurrences by older seamen but I very much wanted to experience this personally."

After painful expectation, the mine blew up. The wind carried the thunder of the explosion.

"The fairway is clear." This brief report concealed the difficult work, coolness and daring of the navy sappers, their pride in carrying out their duty and their constant readiness for battle.

Marine Physician

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 30 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Capt Lenko Petkov]

[Text] The armored troop carrier of Capt Nikolay Kotov easily dropped into the water and smoothly advanced toward the shore. The sea landing was progressing successfully despite stubborn "enemy" resistance. The motorized infantry subunits of the first landing wave had deployed and were pushing back enemy forces. Captain Kotov's vehicle "bit" into the shore and advanced rapidly.

....Several hours later I had a talk with the captain. "I am the battalion's physician," he said, "as well as a war vehicle commander." I must have registered surprise, for the young officer repeated: "I am the battalion's physician. However, this does not prevent me from taking part in the landing with the others. That is how we, marines, do it."

These are the famous marines! How often we have heard and how frequently we have read about them! When the first war vehicle came out of the large landing ships, Major Ignatenko, my colleague from KRASNAYA ZVEZDA unwittingly exclaimed: "This is where real service is. That is what I call military service!"

I looked at the young shining face of Captain Kotov and tried to imagine him in a white smock with a scalpel or a syringe in his hand, but all I could see was a Soviet army officer.

"Is there work for Kotov the physician?" I asked.

"None," he said, smiling again. "I have not had a single patient from the very first day we sailed into Bulgarian waters. A man could forget his profession this way."

"What is the mood of the troops? Have you participated in other large maneuvers?"

"The mood is upbeat. Everyone is thoroughly training for the exercises. We are not afraid. I took part in the 'West 81' maneuvers and I believe that here again we shall do well. During the 'West 81' maneuvers Marshal Ustinov personally cited Lieutenant Colonel Rudenko, our battalion commander."

"What is the opinion of Officer Kotov on the interaction with the Bulgarian troops?"

"My impressions from our joint training are good. Initially it was not easy but, as they say in my country, if the first blyna sticks in your throat the second goes down much more easily."

"What has been your most difficult medical case?"

"Marines are rarely ill. Honestly, I find it quite embarrassing to say that my most serious case was the removal of an inflamed appendix, which I did in the Mediterranean last year. Our ship was sailing to the "West 81" exercises, and since the distance from the Black to the Baltic Sea is quite long, the result was that my patient not only healed before the exercises began but even participated in the sea landing."

Behind the captain crew members Mechanic-Drivers Seamen Ivanitskiy and Bolagura and Signalmen Lomov and Afanasiyev showed up.

"Two Russians and two Ukrainians," the officer introduced them. "A wonderful group! They provide impeccable communications and run and maintain the vehicle impeccably."

Coordinated Actions

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 30 Sep 82 p 2

[Report by Col Stefan Rikov]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent).

The "enemy," who had suffered heavy losses in the course of the combat operations, was panting. The worsening of the situation urged him to look for any possibility of organizing himself. That is why he used all convenient defense opportunities to stop the advance in an effort to gain time. This would have allowed him to regroup his forces, restore the weakened control of his sub-units and bring up fresh reserves....

The "enemy" was cunning in his foresight. That is why Officer Denev tried to detect his intentions thoroughly and to counteract energetically.

Reconnaissance and security elements operating ahead of the forces promptly detected the resistance in fire centers and forced the defenders to expose themselves and lose self-control. All of this resulted in errors which, in the course of combat operations, exact a high price.

Mentally, Officer Denev imagined what his subordinates were to accomplish in the tense minutes and hours which stretched ahead. The marching columns would be led by covering elements of the advanced parties. In their war vehicles, the troops of the excellent company commanded by Senior Lieutenant Tonev, the tank personnel of Senior Lieutenant Yankov and others will be looking at the area closely. On frequent occasions he had seen the skill of the troops and the qualities of their commanding officers.

Yes, experience is an irreplaceable aid. It makes it possible clearly to consider how to lead subordinates best. References and computations, knowledge of the personnel and good interaction decisively help the thinking of the

commanding officer. This would be of great importance in today's field activities as well, in which the presence of the Soviet troops participating in the "battle" would be felt tangibly. It enhanced the mood and inspired confidence in the final success. It was pleasing to feel that in the heat of "combat" one would be reliably covered from the air by the famous Soviet and Bulgarian eagles....

Somewhere in the distance the thunder of exploding bombs echoed. According to the "battle" plan, behind the elevations the terrain for an air landing was being "cleared up." In a short while the groups of medium and heavy landing helicopters, flown by Soviet Pilots Logachov, Lugovskoy and Mazenko, making use of the topography, swiftly flew to the landing area. The landing troops under Officer Protsenko skillfully destroyed the "enemy" groups which had remained after the bombing and promptly blocked the bringing up of enemy reserves.

Minutes before the subunits commanded by Officer Denev were to move decisively forward, great activities were noted in the "enemy" lines. The fire preparations were inflicting heavy casualties on the defenders. The accurate hits of artillery shells blended with the air strikes. Wave after wave of airplanes piloted by the subordinates of Soviet Officers Mantulenko, Salnikov and Kolvakhov engaged in precise bombing.

Together with them were the fliers of subunits in which Officers Parapunov, Karlyukov and Pavlov serve. Like their Soviet colleagues, they displayed their high flying skills and envious strafing accuracy in hitting ground targets and providing air cover.

Under the cover of artillery and aircraft fire, the forces of the advance parties swiftly moved ahead. Precisely obeying the orders of young Officers Tonev, Yankov and their colleagues, their troops promptly deployed in battle order and fired at the "enemy" who was trying to hold them back.

The "battle" was becoming more and more fierce. The explosion of shells, the rumble of the engines and the infantry fire blended as an impressive symphony. Surmounting the resistance, the war vehicles advanced with increasing persistence. The troops tried to finish off remaining "enemy" forces on the run and to create conditions for the deployment of the units behind them.

Officer Denev had the possibility of following the actions of the leading sub-units and to support them properly. He clearly assessed that in the course of the subsequent action the resistance of the defenders would increase substantially. All of this greatly enhanced the role of interaction with neighbors and supporting fire and aircraft. That is why he tried to pay attention to everything and to make use of even the slightest success which could be developed further.

When the advancing forces captured the advance strongpoints and rushed ahead, they were supported by fire from combat helicopters.

The groups led by First Class Military Pilots Officers Andreev and Georgiev appeared over the battlefield covered by the smoke of gunpowder and dust in teams. Skillfully maneuvering, they actively attacked the "enemy" strongpoints and other targets.

With fire support, gradually the troops of Officers Khalachev, Kapov and Georgiev became increasingly active. In a swift movement, suppressing remaining "enemy" targets, the personnel of the tanks and armored carriers systematically crushed the resistance of the defending "enemy."

All subunit commanders showed speed in their actions, flexibility and creative thinking. Decisively assisted by artillery fire and air support, with increasing persistence they pushed back and destroyed the defenders in order to secure lines for committing new forces.

In the course of the offensive Officer Denev carefully assessed the actions of his and other forces and controlled combat operations. He did not forget even for a minute interaction, communications with neighbors and support. His orders--brief, clear and precise--reached each advancing unit, establishing order and organization. Against the background of the successfully developing advance, and among the din of the air battle, the thunder of exploding shells and the roaring motors, this was particularly useful. It encouraged commanders and troops to double their strength and energy in order to carry out their assignments successfully. This exercise was not only a difficult test in these September days but also a matter of pride: together with Soviet troops which were providing air support, they were able reliably to defend their homeland and the gains of the socialist comity.

Assault From March Column

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 30 Sep 82 p 2

[Report by Sr Lt Evgeni Genov]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent).

Officer Horst Stendel, commander of a motorized infantry battalion, assessed the situation and his assignment. He realized that the "enemy" has gone into defensive operations and is bringing reserves from the deep rear, trying to prevent the advancing forces from occupying tactically advantageous lines. The enemy's company strongpoint was located on an elevation, as it should be. It consisted of machine gun nests and recoilless guns. Despite the short time at his disposal, the commander made quick and suitable decisions.

The preliminary preparations and the organization of the "battle" were completed. Along with the tank company commanded by Captain Meinberg and the howitzer battery of Major Kruger, the motorized infantry quickly moved toward the front defense lines.

Unexpectedly, helicopters appeared behind the forest. Soviet and Bulgarian aviators interacted with the German motorized infantry, giving it air support. Simultaneously, like an avalanche of fire, Soviet artillery opened fire on the leading echelons, strongpoints and artillery and mortar positions.

All of this created favorable conditions for the further advance of the troops. The important thing was not to miss the opportunity. One could clearly see from the observation point the swift advance of the armored motor vehicles deploying in battle order as they appeared out of the forest cutting.

Attack! Machine and submachine gun fire is heard. The motorized infantrymen are acting with precision and decisiveness. Officer Stendel ordered increased fire in one direction or another. The same orders were issued by the company commanders. The actions of the motorized infantry, the tanks and the artillery were fully coordinated.

"This is a difficult exercise for the troops," the commanding officer had told me on the eve. "The subunit has many young soldiers. They must now prove their physical and mental endurance and martial skills."

Company Commander Senior Lieutenant Hartmann shared with me the following several days before this important test:

"Let me point out the excellent training of platoon commanders. I am confident that they will be able to cope even with the most difficult situation." The same view was expressed by Jr Sgt Andreas Wack. He assured me that his mortars will be destroying the "enemy" tanks with the first shell.

....The advance continued successfully. The "enemy" counterattacked. Having accurately assessed the situation, Officer Stendel decided to repel it on the move. The companies with attached tank platoons swiftly advanced in order to occupy better positions. The motorized infantrymen of the company commanded by Captain Messerschmidt showed their excellent training. The mortarmen displayed their high skill. This was to be expected, for it has become a tradition for the battery's personnel to hit the target with the first shell. Last school year the collective fulfilled its pledge in the socialist competition and was given an excelnt rating. Today as well the personnel are displaying the same qualities.

Another strongpoint faces the battery. Officer Stendel rapidly assessed the situation and made a proper decision. He mounted a frontal attack with the companies of Captain Messerschmidt and Lieutenant Molnau, while the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant Hartmann was ordered to carry out a flanking operation, interacting with the neighbor on the left. The motorized infantry of the Bulgarian People's Army bypassed and penetrated the "enemy's" rear lines. This maneuver made it possible to develop the offensive at a high pace.

The attack and the advance prevented the "enemy" from organizing the defense of his intermediary lines. The dynamic and stressed situation contributed to

the development of useful combat qualities in the troops. The difficult conditions energized troops and commanders. The combat operations required great tension and extreme mental stress. They helped to improve the methods of the commanding officers in troop control and guidance.

During the exercise the troops of the National People's Army of the GDR mastered and carried out their assignments as required by modern combat. They displayed their high combat spirit, proper physical training and endurance and readiness always to defend the cause of peace and socialism.

Tank Crew Activities

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 30 Sep 82 p 2

[Article by Col Petko Radoev]

[Text] Large maneuvers are remembered by military personnel as great holidays. The stress in the activities of the tank crew commanded by Jr Sgt Ivan Ivanov is rising steadily. At the same time we detect the emotions and the aspiration of every member of this small combat collective to prove himself properly during the maneuvers. This involves the implementation of various combat training assignments and the surmounting of resulting difficulties. However, this is not considered a burden, which is a guarantee for proper action.

The tank crew traditionally is rated excellent and is the champion not only in the company but in the unit and no one is willing to abandon this tradition. The individual and collective pledges of the crew are being fulfilled honorably. Relations among the crew members are comradely, warm and principle-minded.

With unconcealed pleasure the tank gunner said:

"With his comradely approach to us and his personal example, the commander leads us and we follow him enthusiastically in performing our military duties."

Junior Sergeant Ivanov said:

"I am extremely happy that together with all the comrades in the unit, our crew had the honor to prove the strength and power of our arm. I am happy that here, in the exercise, I will be able to meet with comrades from the other fraternal armies. We shall exchange experience. Everyone will share everything he knows so that all of us may be ready to defend peace and the cause of socialism."

Not only this tank crew but all other troops and commanders use every available second to improve and advance their skills. The assignments, pledges and instructions issued by the command and the Komsomol societies are being carried out with military honor.

Continuing Advance

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 30 Sep 82 p 2

[Report by Capt Lyubomir Denov]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent). The advance is continuing. The main forces, which have pierced the "enemy" defenses need support. Fresh troops must be committed to the "battle." This is the task of Czechoslovak, Hungarian and Bulgarian subunits moving forward on village roads.

Like Real Brothers

In the course of organizing the interaction, a meeting was held between company commanders Sr Lt Alois Janicek, from the Czechoslovak People's Army and Lt Antol Berockoy, from the Hungarian People's Army. They shook hands, embraced and, subsequently, jointly determined the interaction procedure....

The fire preparations ended. The final volley was the strongest and most powerful. It was one of the signals for the beginning of the attack.

The tanks advanced swiftly and daringly. Riding in the command tank, Senior Lieutenant Janicek directed the invisible avalanche of steel. This is his first such attack. After graduation from a military academy with excellent success, he was directly appointed company commander.

With increasing frequency Janicek looks to the right. The "enemy" defenses are slightly protruding in the sector attacked by the Hungarian motorized infantry. For the time being, however, there is no danger that Janicek will lose contact with them, the more so since along the flank is his best platoon, commanded by Junior Sergeant Bajtipan. This youngster has done a tremendous amount of work! He completed a course for junior commanders and his love for the tanks and excellent training were additional grounds for the high trust of the command. The tank commanded by Private First Class Kratki, the last in the chain, is the closest to the war vehicles of the Hungarian motorized infantry. Kratki's brow is covered with sweat. For a second he saw the tank of Komsomol secretary Private First Class Czasta. At first he thought that Czasta had decided once again to prove his high skill to his own driver Private First Class Urbanek but then realized that the soldier was simply skillfully crossing a ditch.

Somewhere ahead of them they saw through the smokescreen the flames of the charges set by the sappers. After a few seconds the torches marking passages through minefields lit up....

The Hungarian troops are advancing side by side with their Czechoslovak brothers. The motorized infantry of the company commanded by Lieutenant Berotskoy is swiftly attacking next to the tank company commanded by Senior Lieutenant Janicek. On the eve of the exercise Officer Balok shared his confidence in the success of the left flank company. Lieutenant Berotskoy is the

youngest commander in the subunit. He has commanded a platoon for only 1 year. For the time being, however, his company leads in the socialist competition.

The platoon commanded by Lieutenant Banhedi is advancing alongside the tank platoon of Junior Sergeant Bajtipan. The last vehicle in the chain is driven by Private First Class Zambo, rated excellent in combat and political training. A few days before the "battle" he was issued a Komsomol assignment not to fall behind his own and the Czechoslovak tanks, while observing the proper distance.

Hard Won Victory

However, the "enemy" resisted stubbornly. Following the successful landing of the Polish paratroopers, which secured an advance area for the development of the offensive, reconnaissance reported that tank columns are moving at high speed and are preparing to counterattack in the flank of the advancing forces.

There was no time to waste. The attackers decided to make use of the mobile detachment to block the offensive. After a few minutes a group of helicopters from the Soviet unit in which Officer Shkadinskiy serves, flew to the line at which the counterattack had to be stopped. This was the mobile blocking detachment. The group was led by Military Pilot First Class Officer Mazanko. He is a CPSU member and bearer of an order for excellent training results. Responsive, calm, and displaying a rare pedagogical tactfulness, Officer Mazanko has earned the recognition and respect of the entire collective. He is always assigned by the command to the most difficult areas. Here again he has been entrusted with mining from the air the line which the "enemy" tanks must cross.

The commander's crew includes Excellent Military Fliers Captain Shashchenko, the navigator and secretary of the party organization, and Flight Technician Captain Rud.

The helicopters flew low. In impeccable combat order they approached the line and began to drop heavy antitank mines....

Meanwhile, the battery commanded by Capt Petur Pavlov had reached its assigned area. The orders "Start! Forward!" were heard. Seconds passed by. The prime movers groaned as they climbed the slope. The battery personnel tensely held their automatic weapons, once again assessing their actions the moment they would jump on the ground. In order to conceal the advance total radio silence was ordered.

"Stop! Come down! Unhitch! For battle!" The prime movers irrepressibly moved ahead and, after unloading the ammunition and sighting instruments disappeared in their shelters. The crew commanders report:

"Gun Number 1 ready!"

Captain Pavlov is pleased with the actions of the antitank forces. The crew has assumed its combat position. However, the captain keeps looking at his watch with increased frequency. "Enemy" tanks may appear at any moment. There they are!

"Battery stop! Mark 42--two groups of tanks! First platoon fire at the right group, second platoon at the left! Fire!"

A sharp noise breaks the silence. Even without binoculars the strikes are visible. However, Captain Pavlov is not celebrating prematurely. He understands perfectly that the outcome of the battle now depends on the accuracy of the fire. Should the tanks be able to cross and strike at the flank the entire advance will be stopped.

"Fire! Fire!"... The fire positions disappear in clouds of smoke.

"Gun Number 1 completed its fire--two tanks destroyed. Two shells spent."

Seconds later similar reports are heard from the crews of Sergeant Ilchev and Junior Sergeant Gruiev. Excellent combat actions are reported by Gunners Privates Donchev and Zaykov.

Silence! The artillery fire stops as suddenly as it started. The "enemy" has suffered heavy losses. Meanwhile, the Czechoslovak tanks and Hungarian motorized infantry continue to sweep off the "enemy" defenses. The flank has been protected and the critical moment in the battle is over.

On the staff maps of the opposite sides the outcome of the combat takes shape. The advancing forces are winning, those whose active and decisive combat actions were able to impose their will on the "enemy."

Hungarian Company Actions

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 30 Sep 82 p 4

[Article by Capt Bela Siklosi]

[Text] An armored troop carrier showed up through the cloud of dust along the road. Its tower "looked around" the area and the machine guns were directed toward the forested and bushy area. The carrier stopped and the cupola turned slowly, grandly "feeling" the surroundings, meter by meter. Its two doors opened and the reconnaissance troops literally flew out of the vehicle. The leader of the two scouts Private Peter Adam threw himself on the ground and rolled quickly toward the side, ran a distance of 20 to 30 meters and assumed a ready to fire position. He motioned with his weapon that the way was clear.

The reconnaissance patrol commanded by Master Sergeant Ferenc Ambrus was given an important assignment in the tactical exercise with practice fire conducted by the reinforced mechanized infantry company. He was to reconnoiter the area where the company was to deploy, the location of engineering equipment along

the route, its condition, and areas with a probable contamination with chemical and radioactive weapons. He was to repel sudden attacks by enemy diversion groups, to secure the proper advance of the company and, in the face of stronger enemy forces, to cover the deployment of the subunit and its engagement in battle. During that day the skill, speed and physical endurance of the troops were repeatedly tested. Every member of the company felt it his obligation during the exercise to prove that the recent failure of control fire practice had been an isolated error. The company commanded by Lt Marton Feyes surmounted a variety of obstacles in the course of the exercise in a truly exemplary fashion. It acted particularly well during the advance and in detecting and surmounting low-flying air targets, enemy air landing and combat helicopters. A simulator of a fighter, which flew over the column, rarely avoided machine gun hits.

The stipulated area was occupied substantially faster than stipulated in the excellent rating norm. The war vehicles were quickly camouflaged. The troops skillfully used natural shelters of copses and bushes. In preparing for their combat assignment, they did not forget the securing of the waiting area or the need for observers, detectors and patrols. In this area the combat vehicles were checked and ammunition, fuel and technical facilities were delivered and readied.

The drill was exemplary. Informing the company marching column the company commander quite perceptively anticipated a possible encounter with the enemy and placed at the head of the company the reinforcing tank platoon and behind it a rocket platoon, which is irreplaceable in fighting enemy tanks.

He was justified, for the advance did not proceed calmly. The reconnaissance patrol radioed that platoon strength enemy strongpoints and a minefield had been detected.

The column stopped. Supported by tanks and the fire of the infantry platoon, the troops undertook to open a passage across the enemy minefield. The method used by the platoon with the help of no more than two sappers in carrying out its assignment was noteworthy. The troops assembled the charges and moved them across the minefield. A long time passed until at a distance of 20 meters within the minefield passages for all three platoons were blasted open.

Major Gen Sandor Simon, who observed the exercise, assessed the organization and control of the fire and the advance of the subunit as adequate. He indicated as another noteworthy feature of the exercise the decisive action of the company commander in controlling the fire. He singled out the fire control of the reinforcing tank platoon.

In a swift attack the subunit captured the strongpoint of the "enemy" platoon. The company continued its advance riding in the armored troop carriers. The day was ending by the time the area of the most difficult and the final stage in the exercise--the firing range--was reached. The issuing of ammunition was preceded by mandatory checks.

Fire commands were heard one after another along the squads, reaching even the most distant soldiers. With the advance the number of targets increased steadily and an increasing number of weapons joined the "battle." Only a few of the almost 150 various enemy targets--tanks, armored troop carriers, guns, combat helicopters and group targets in strongpoints representing infantry subunits--remained intact. One or more bullets hit more than two-thirds of the targets. In one of the targets, which simulated a combat helicopter, the numerous bullet holes proved that the commander properly controlled the organized fire of his subunit.

The company's results may have been even better if several groups of infantry or helicopter targets had not appeared in violation of the planned stipulations. The tank platoon which was supporting the "fight" of the mechanized infantry platoon contributed to the success of the offensive battle waged by the company with its excellent fire results. Although the antitank rocket platoon fired successfully as well, during the "battle" in depth it was quite late and in repelling the counterattack the fire directed at enemy targets was provided by the tanks and crews manning manual antitank weapons.

The company met perfectly its tactical normed assignments and concluded with good results the fire and combat exercise. The formation commander, who followed to the very end the tactical company exercise combined with fire practice, expressed his satisfaction with the results. He noted the thorough and skillful work of the company personnel and the skillful handling by the company commander of the reinforcing tank and antitank missile subunits. He also noted with satisfaction the organization and activities in making the passage through the minefield. He highly rated the dynamics of the combat activities of the subunit, the coordination between the fire and the advance, and the behavior of the troops in combat, indicating that under other difficult and complex conditions they will be able to apply everything they have learned during the exercise.

Third 'Shield 82' Maneuvers Day

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 82 pp 1, 3

[Text] Maneuvers area, 30 September (BTA). The third combat day of the "Shield 82" maneuvers was the culminating point of the exceptional dynamics of "combat operations." They were observed by Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and State Council chairman, and Comrades Aleksandur Lilov, Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, commander of the exercise, Milko Balev, Ognyan Doynov, Pencho Kubadinski, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Andrey Lukanov, Georgi Yordanov, Dimitur Stanishev, Georgi Atanasov, Stoyan Mikhaylov, Vasil Tsanov, Chudomir Aleksandrov and deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers.

Also present were heads of BCP Central Committee departments, members of the government, first secretaries of okrug BCP committees, heads of sociopolitical and mass organizations, culture and art personalities, public figures and Bulgarian and foreign journalists.

The maneuvers were observed by Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces, and military delegations from the socialist countries attending the exercise.

In order to consolidate the results achieved so far and to develop their success in depth, the advancing units of the fraternal armies were ordered to destroy the "enemy's" facilities for nuclear attack, and to capture important targets behind enemy lines. Reconnaissance aircraft took off and transmitted data exceptionally necessary for the forthcoming decisive clash.

A group of supersonic fighter aircraft showed up from the north. Their target was to prevent "enemy" airplanes from penetrating the landing area. A tense air combat developed. This was hard work for First Class Pilots Officers Videnov, Lolovski, Georgiev and others. However, these are fighters who have grown up in a collective with traditions related to holding leading positions in mastering the new jet airplanes during the 1950s, the training of the first flight of first class Bulgarian fliers, and the reaching of high results in combat and political training.

Several groups of fighter bombers mounted a sudden thunderous attack coming from various directions. They struck with missiles and bombs important "enemy" targets in order to help the landing troops. This was the air force unit in which Officer Malchev serves--a combat group which has always been among the leaders.

Before the noise of the powerful explosions could disperse, a group of Soviet combat aircraft dealt crushing blows at other "enemy" targets. They were led by Officer Igor Artyunshenkov.

The air force preparations for the landing was essentially completed. The "enemy" was disorganized and needed time to recover. However, the first military transport airplanes were already nearing the landing area. The weather conditions worsened drastically. A torrential rain began to fall. Lightning tore up the sky. The dropping of the combat ordnance began--the parachutes with the heavy vehicles dropped quickly, creating the impression that in no more than a few seconds they would hit the ground. The next moment, however, the retrojets ignited and thanks to the thus created "cushion," the equipment landed smoothly. The domes of hundreds of parachutes opened in the air. The Soviet troops of a unit which participated in the Great Patriotic War were landing. These troops displayed amazing examples of courage and heroism in the battles for the liberation of Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Those who landed included Officer Sergey Kochetov, bearer of the For Service to the Homeland Order Third Class, commanders of excellent subunits Captains Valeriy Dyachuk and Aleksandr Lobanov, Sr Lt Valeriy Yuryev, Privates-Komsomol members Sergeant Oleg Peklich and Private First Class Mikhail Aleksandrovich, both of whom recipients of the Komsomol Central Committee badge "For Military Valor." The landing subunits were highly mobile, perfectly trained for battle under all possible conditions. While still in the air the landing forces opened fire on the "enemy." Bulgarian fighter aircraft circled high in the

sky, ready at any moment to protect the landing forces from the "enemy" air force. A heavy battle developed on the ground.

To the companies of combat and landing ships from the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet of the USSR and the Bulgarian navy, the motorized infantry units and to the combat aircraft crews this day represents a peak of the stressed preparations filled with work and trials. A sea landing was to be made--one of the most complex military operations. The ships showing up at sea are powerful, flexible and fast. The companies have mastered the combat equipment to perfection. For example, the crew of the large "Krimskiy Komsomolets" landing ship has been rated excellent for the past 10 years. Now as well its commander Captain Lieutenant Nekhoroshev and Senior Lieutenant Reshetilo, deputy commander for political affair, are confidently taking it to a leading position in the competition.

Also in the ranks is the Bulgarian ship commanded by Lieutenant Stefanov. It too is struggling for the title "Excellent Landing Ship." In the stipulated areas the dozens of landing ships take aboard ship troops and equipment; the hulls are filled with the thunder of engines and smoke as the tanks and armored troop carriers take their place.

Leading toward the shore are the minesweepers which open ways through "enemy" mine obstacles for the ships behind them. However, the landing is threatened by submarines and missile and torpedo launchers and aircraft. Despite the camouflage measures, the "enemy" could counteract in the course of the loading and deployment, for which reason vigilant air, surface and underwater protection is needed. The submarine in which Officer Yordanov serves, reliably covers the group of ships. The sonar men survey the sea around them and determine the "enemy" steps. The enemy varies its depth, and changes its course and speed. Also present here are antisubmarine ships. The crew commanded by Officer Damyanov is in one of them. It is the first to discover an underwater target which is attacked by the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet of the USSR on which Officer Magazinov serves.

The landing forces are nearing the shore. The missile carrying aircraft of the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet of the USSR, whose strike groups include First Class Pilots Officers Lazarev, Moskot, Shchiryayev and Bistritskiy, strikes at the "enemy's" antilanding defense. The fighter bomber aircraft rushes ahead in battle order. The groups of aircraft are led First Class Soviet and Bulgarian Officers Podgornyy, Kolesnikov, Parapunov, Oseledko and Karlyukov.

Escort ships open artillery fire from a distance, hitting the shore strongpoints of "enemy" ground forces. The earth shakes from the thunder of the explosions. Hundreds of kilograms of hot metal are poured on each square meter of shore.

The landing detachments are nearing in battle order. They are covered by the fighter aircraft and naval artillery. Special helicopters open passages in antilanding minefields. The weapons of the landing ships join the battle. The ships reach the landing areas. The marine subunit commanded by Officer

Rudenko is in the first landing wave. It captures sectors on the beach and secures the landing of the main forces. Tanks and armored troop carriers come out of the landing ships and open fire even before reaching the shore. Combat helicopters and Soviet supersonic fighters fly over them. Their missiles destroy the "enemy" weapons and reserves brought up from the rear. The large landing ships of the second wave are nearing the shore. Particularly impressive are the hovercraft ships which fly over the waves at high speed and "land" ashore. The ships land tanks. Marine infantry headed by Officer Reblev joins the battle. The "enemy" pours fire on the landing forces. Our troops are waging a fierce battle to widen the bridgehead. The tension increases... and shortly afterwards we hear the shout "Victory!"

This was the final day of the "combat operations" of the "Shield 82" maneuvers, in which participated staffs and troops from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. The assignments for the exercise were carried out. The troops displayed their high skill, total coordination of action in the exceptional dynamics and complexity of the "battles," and moral-willpower and physical qualities.

"Shield 82" were maneuvers which clearly proved the socialist internationalism of the Warsaw Pact members, whose soldiers were welcomed with exceptional hospitality and great warmth and cordiality by the Bulgarian population. "Shield 82" became another demonstration of the unity and cohesion of the allied armies and the resolve to defend the gains of socialism and strictly to carry out the assignments of the fraternal parties in countering the threat of a new war and strengthening global peace.

Attack at Sea

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 82 pp 1-2

[Report by Capt Lyubomir Denov]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent).

The sea is calm and the waves are moving toward the shore very slowly. A few meters away a little stream is playfully rushing toward this infinite water mass. Tanks and war vehicles do not fit into this pastoral picture. However, here they are, side by side, with their back to the sea. In no more than a few minutes the company commanded by Senior Lieutenant Zapryanov will start their long sea landing march. The tank platoon commanded by Master Sergeant Cadet Rumen Angelov is in a state of tense expectation.

The Ship Lands

The landing ship nears the shore. The gate opens slowly and becomes a bridge linking the ship to the shore. The first tank starts confidently and accurately in reverse. It is followed by the second and the third. The most accurate is Junior Sergeant Driver Kyuchukov--his tank finds its proper place in a few seconds.

No more than some 10 minutes have passed since the loading and the order to lift anchor is heard. On the bridge, Sr Lt Khristo Boyadzhiev, the ship's commander, is waiting for the commander of the landing. The tank personnel complete the securing of the tanks and also hasten to meet with their friends, the crew members. Senior Lieutenant Boyadzhiev is pleased by the interaction with the fraternal land forces. The tank crews become quickly accustomed to ship procedures and, together with the seamen, participate in resolving various problems which arise in the course of the sea crossing.

The landing conducted by Senior Lieutenant Boyadzhiev earned the rating "Excellent." His crew shows great assurance and is ready to consolidate the result. Convinced of the success of the crossing and the landing are also the ship's mechanic Lieutenant Dochev and Junior Lieutenant Dyakov the ship's deputy commander. The slogan "Radioman, be a marksman in the ether!" hangs over the seat of the ship's signalman. "This is the work of our Komsomol secretary, Second Grade Petty Officer Tomi Geyman," explains the commander. "The society is in a leading position in the Komsomol organization. Let me say that a great share of the good training of the crew is the result of purposeful Komsomol work."

Master Sergeant Cadet Angelov is on the bridge. He is calm. The loading has been completed successfully. I asked him how the tank personnel feel in the new situation.

"Very well," he answers. "We expected that the drivers would be faced with the greatest difficulties. It is obvious, however, that practice runs yielded results. We took preventive measures against seasickness as well. So far no one has used the special pills which we were issued in advance."

During the training period, excellent work was done by tank commanders Master Sergeant Marchev, Junior Sergeant Koklev and Gunner Private Zlatkov.

Cold wind blew from the shore and the rocking increased. A signal flashed from the flagship. Its orders were issued from the bridge. A long and difficult sailing trip lay ahead....

Through Fire and Water

The reconnaissance ended and fighter-bomber aircraft hurled themselves toward the positions of the antilanding defense. The thunder of the jet engines was incredible but rapidly disappeared among the powerful bomb explosions. The task of comprehensive strike was carried out by the naval artillery of the covering forces. Minesweeping helicopters flew toward the shore, leaving behind them a wide passage free from mines. New fighter-bomber units roar toward the "enemy" batteries. They fly low over the positions, dropping their deadly load and sharply rise in the smoky sky.

The outlines of the hovercraft ships show up on the horizon. Gradually the halo of a huge water jet rises behind them. At low height and in orderly

ranks the helicopters of the storming groups are flying toward the shore. Together with the landing forces carried by the hovercrafts, as a leading detachment, they will be the first to join the "battle" and to seize a bridgehead so that the main forces can land.

The landing ships of the first "wave" show up. The tactical deployment has taken place and the officers and seamen from the unit in which Officer Atanasov serves are gathering their strength for the decisive hour. Meanwhile, the "enemy" has recovered and his coastal batteries intensify their fire. One after the other orders come out of the flagship, aimed at ensuring uninterrupted interaction. Yes, interaction is a decisive factor during these particularly important minutes. The bay must be approached simultaneously and in an orderly fashion. This will exceptionally increase the striking power of the landed subunits.

The ship commanded by Senior Lieutenant Kurmakov is following the precisely stipulated course, confidently following the orders of Officer Atanasov.

The flagship and the ship commanded by Senior Lieutenant Boyadzhiev are sailing side by side in the same "wave." The fruitfulness of the entire interaction essentially depends on their coordination.

An air "battle" develops over the bay. Once again fighter-bombers take off and in their wake the shore is covered by a thick cloud of smoke. Sr Lt Khristo Boyadzhiev shakes the hand of Platoon Commander Master Sergeant Cadet Angelov and wishes him success. In a friendly fashion he lays a heavy hand on the shoulder of the tank man. The crews of the tanks have already assumed their positions. It is dark and stifling in the hold and even more so in the tank. However, only a few hundred meters remain to the shore. All seamen are in their positions. Petty Officer Second Class Geyman, the Komsomol society secretary, is steering, standing next to the commanding officer.

"Release the flap!"

Driver Junior Sergeant Kyuchukov is firmly holding the control sticks. When the flap has been dropped entirely the tank personnel realize that there are 20-30 meters to the shore. Yes, the seamen kept their word of maximally facilitating the landing of the equipment.

"Forward!"

The first tank touches the waves and for a second the water hits and "blinds" the driver. However, the commander is in his proper place. The remaining tanks hit the water as well. They confidently follow the leading tank and are ready to engage in "battle" on the shore. Soviet marines brought by the hovercraft and the helicopters are already fighting. The explosion of shells can be clearly heard through the thick armor. Passages through minefields have been already clearly marked. The charges of the Soviet engineers have done a good job.

"Carefully through the passage!" orders the platoon commander. Everything is normal. The tanks go over a deep ditch through a makeshift bridge and begin to deploy for the attack.

Meanwhile, the ships commanded by Senior Lieutenants Boyadzhiev and Bratanov, Lieutenant Stefanov and Commanding Officer Atanasov are already maneuvering. The outlines of the large Soviet landing ships become visible on the horizon. They will be landing ashore the subunits of the famous marines.

Concert for 'Shield 82' Participants

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 82 pp 1-2

[Report by Maj Dragomir Gospodinov and Capt Ivan Yordanov]

[Text] Burgas, 30 September (by telephone from our special correspondents). This evening troops from the fraternal armies came to the Burgas House of Culture for the solemn concert-show of the artistic companies of the troops which participated in the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

The concert was attended by Comrades Todor Zhivkov, Aleksandur Lilov, Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Milko Balev, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Georgi Yordanov, Dimitur Stanishev, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Council of Ministers deputy chairmen, heads of BCP Central Committee departments, Col Gen Kiril Kosev, chief of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army, Nikolay Zhishhev, first secretary of the Burgas Okrug BCP committee, generals and officers.

Also attending were the military delegations of the socialist countries attending the maneuvers, Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, and Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces.

The fanfare for "Shield 82," especially composed for the maneuvers by military band conductor Lt Col Dimitur Bratanov, was played. The curtain rose slowly. The emblem of the maneuvers stood out visibly on the stage, lit by search-lights. The "Victory March," performed by a representative ensemble of the BNA, with which the solemn concert-show began, sounded powerfully. Using the language of music, words and dances, the performers described daily military life, comradeship in arms, and the resolve of the Warsaw Pact armies to defend the cause of peace and socialism.

"The BNA representative ensemble has always been among the troops. Such was the case now, during the joint exercise of the fraternal armies. No other way is possible, for the soldier needs songs," said artist Col Boris Khinchev, chief conductor of the representative ensemble of the BNA.

"Folk music reminds the soldier of his roots and gives him the strength to surmount difficulties, for which reason our performance is based on Hungarian folklore. Although Hungarian is a difficult language, our music and dances

are close to and understood by the troops of the fraternal armies," said Private Gyula Nejmet, first violin in the amateur music and art ensemble of the Hungarian People's Army.

Maj Alfonse Wolf, head of the vocal octet of the "Erich Weinert" GDR army ensemble, said briefly: "We sing of peaceful days, love and happiness, children and a bright future. We know that all of this is needed in order to continue the revolutionary traditions and to strengthen the power and unity of our armed forces."

"Our program describes the daily life of the red berets. We want the people to understand that we are ready for anything in order to defend socialism in Poland and the Warsaw Pact countries. Such are the words with which we conclude our composition," said Private First Class Raszid Staruha, soloist in an amateur music-art ensemble of the paratroop forces of the Polish army.

"Our program includes topics of heroism and the peaceful days of the Soviet people, the spiritual wealth of the builder of communism, high responsibility for the defense of the homeland and permanent readiness for exploit for the sake of the happiness and prosperity of our land and for peace," said Maj Dimitr Volkov, artistic manager of the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Red Banner Odessa Military District.

"Through our songs we want to help the soldiers to forget their fatigue after difficult exercises and to encourage their good mood. They must always remember that they are defending love, children and the future," said Drahomira Hranova, soloist of the performing group of the Military Artistic Ensemble of the Czechoslovak Western Military District.

Seamen carrying the flags of the Warsaw Pact members come on stage under the sounds of the "United Nations March." Pioneers wearing red kerchiefs wave the blue flags of peace. Side by side, the troops of the fraternal armies sing the march of unity and friendship. We are strong because we are together and are defending the sacred cause of peace and communism.

Profile of Minesweeper Commander

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Capt Second Rank Yani Poptomov]

[Text] Warrant Officer Valeriy Nikolayevich Avdenok, medium-sized, with a thin dark face, talks very rapidly. He is probably the same in his work--fast and dexterous. Otherwise we would be unable to explain the good results he has achieved in training and educating his minesweeping crew.

Yes, the military service of this warrant officer, in love with his profession and totally dedicated to his work, is paralleled by success. Both combat posts have been rated excellent and with a single exception all minelayers are rated as first class specialists. Valeriy Nikolayevich is particularly proud

of the activities and military skill of Petty Officer Second Class Yuriy Barousov, and Senior Seamen Andrey Lyakhov and Andrey Glizhin, who have been awarded the high title of Excellent Navy Seaman. These successes are the result of comprehensive and persistent efforts and a tireless search for the most efficient solution of combat training problems, the struggle to save minutes and seconds and comradely mutual aid.

All seamen in the multinational minesweeping crew are good comrades, ready at all times to help one another. For example, Senior Seaman Velichko was relatively new aboard ship and found it difficult to participate fully in the various activities of the crews. He was helped by Petty Officer Second Class Yuriy Barousov and Senior Seaman Andrey Lyakhov in his faster development as a specialist.

It is a manner of honor to the united minesweeping crew to participate in the joint "Shield 82" maneuvers. That is why its training was comprehensive and extensive: theoretical and practical training in material facilities, combined with special concern for impeccable work of the equipment, exchange of experience among specialists in different ships and practical solution of problems at sea, paying particular attention to lowering norm indicators.

Valeriy Nikolayevich is still under the impression of the recently completed voyage. Darkness had long fallen by the time the ship docked. He felt bone tired. However, the fatigue could not dull the glitter in his eyes or suppress his pleasure of the excellent and coordinated activities in mine-sweeping, which had once again helped the crew to gain valuable seconds.

Warrant Officer Avdenok, the party secretary, is concerned not only with the success of his subordinates but the entire crew. That is why with his typical persistence he urges on the party members to unite the collective even further, using a rich gamut of means of mass-political work.

The warrant officer was awarded the medal "For Excellent Military Service" Second Class for his comprehensive and active efforts. He also bears the title of "Master in Military Affairs" and has deservedly earned the respect of all officers, warrant officers and seamen in the unit.

Landing Exercise

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Capt Ivan Sotirov]

[Text] Maneuvers area (by telephone from our special correspondent).

The flat containers of antitank and antipersonnel mines had been concealed in the gold-yellow sands of the beach. Silent death is also floating on the gray-green waves of the maritime bay. The accesses to the neighboring hills--convenient passageways to the positions held by the antilanding defense--have

been mined. The tank guns and mortars are ready for accurate fire at approaching ships and armor. The shoreline is cut up by trenches and the artillery batteries are positioned in the forest which is visible in the distance. Howitzers are threateningly raised in the ravine. The battle for the seashore will be fierce. The troops of the unit in which Captain Zafirov serves, are part of the antilanding defense. They have practiced long and persistently and have upgraded their combat skills.

A Decisive Duel

At present only observers and weapons on duty are to be found along the positions of the antilanding defense line. Shells are exploding around them and aviation bombs leave huge craters. Fountains of dirt, dust and smoke rise in the air. A thick gray cloud of smoke rises high into the sky. At the proper distance from the shore, behind the Soviet minesweeper, the fire support ship of the Bulgarian navy is shelling heavily the positions of the antilanding defense. Bulgarian and Soviet fliers are accurately bombing the "enemy" artillery battery.

Suddenly hovercrafts appear above the waves in the bay. Flying low over the sea are a group of helicopters which turn sharply toward a convenient landing area. One of the helicopters is skillfully piloted by Capt Aleksandr Yelchaninov. His crew includes Diving Pilot Sr Lt Nikolay Lugavtsov and Flight Technician Capt Vladimir Veresov. All three are party members: Yelchaninov is member of the party bureau, Lugavtsov is responsible for the party group while Veresov is an agitator. This crew has shown excellent results in many important tests. The commanding officer is their model. Last year, Military Pilot First Class Yelchaninov was awarded the "Honor Badge" order, which is a high government award.

The artillery turns its fire in depth and the personnel of the antilanding defense leave their shelters in order to assume their positions in the trenches. The fastest and best organized are the platoons commanded by Lieutenants Petkov and Narmiyski. They can see the helicopters flying low over the sea ahead of the gray-black smoke covering the battlefield, quickly landing not far from the beach. The landing forces jump out of them. Short bursts of automatic fire are heard and hand grenades explode. A powerful hurrah can be heard.

The Marines are Advancing

The hovercrafts swiftly approach the shore. They reach the shallow area without diminishing their speed. Surrounded by clouds of sand they come out of the water and go on over the ground. They are unrestrainable! They finally stop and tanks and infantry war vehicles come out through the open flaps and attack. Bulgarian troops and Soviet marines carry out joint tasks shoulder to shoulder--the destruction of the infantry and the remaining weapons of the "enemy." They secure the area of the sea landing.

Soviet Officer Viktor Polosin is the commanding officer of the leading detachment. He bears the order "For Service to the Homeland in the Armed Forces of the USSR" Third Class. He was a delegate to the 26th CPSU Congress. During the preparations for the exercise I had the opportunity to talk to him.

"I was born not far from Moscow, in the city-hero of Tula," he said. "I chose the military profession in order to defend my homeland. I am proud to be a marine, which is the heir of great combat traditions."

Small and large landing ships are approaching the shore. At the proper distance the flaps open and tanks, infantry war vehicles and armored personnel carriers emerge. The marines commanded by Officer Vasiliy Rudenko join the battle. This commander has rich experience and has participated in many joint exercises of fraternal armed forces. He has perfected his skill and combat mastery on Bulgarian soil as well, in the Rodopi maneuvers. He is CPSU member and first class specialist.

Among the leading marine lines is Deputy Commander for Political Affairs Capt Valeriy Zagornov. As during the Great Patriotic War, the commissar is always among the troops.

Excellent work is being done by the left flank company commanded by Sr Lt Aleksandr Zyuzulya. For the past 3 years he has commanded an excellent company which is always in a leading position in the socialist competition. Sr Lt Zyuzulya is the bearer of the "For Military Combat" medal for proven command skills and combat mastery.

The actions of the section commanded by Sgt Aleksandr Shevchuk are confident and precise. The section has given the high pledge of achieving excellent results in honor of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR. Contributing to this are Jr Sgt Pavel Moiseyenko, secretary of the Komsomol organization, Seaman Sergey Ryaboy, Seaman Bektabek Yuldashev and all others. Their successes in the exercise will be the reward of Sergeant Shevchuk who, prior to the combat operations, had applied for CPSU membership.

Leading Experience Course

The marines advance irrepressibly. A crack develops in the antilanding defense but the "battle" does not stop. From the edge of the forest four columns of tanks and armored personnel carriers advance rapidly in the direction of the wedged forces. With speed and confidence the units commanded by Captains Kapinov and Kichukov deploy for the counterattack. The lines prepared in advance are reached also by the antitank forces commanded by Senior Lieutenant Dimitrov. The actions of the platoons commanded by Lieutenants Lozev and Kozhukharov are excellent.

The advancing counterattacking columns are shelled and bombed. Soviet fliers Military Pilots First Class Officers Mikhail Kolmogorov, Vladimir Salnikov and Vladimir Ryabinin are confidently piloting their supersonic aircraft.

Shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet marines are the Bulgarian troops from the unit in which Officer Angelov serves. In their case, this exercise is not only a difficult trial but irreplaceable training. It is here, in the course of joint actions with the landing troops, that they master leading Soviet experience and learn to fight like the descendants of the great Red Army men.

Both the attack and the "Shield 82" maneuvers will pass. However, Company Commanders Sr Lts Georgi Lazarov, Nikolay Kolev and Kol'o Kolev will continue to apply in their work all that they saw and learned from their Soviet comrades.

....The shore is covered by a smoke screen and ever new ships from which tanks and armored troop carriers pour out come closer. Far into the west the sky is dark from the smoke of the "battle." Despite the stubborn resistance of the enemy, the Soviet marines and Bulgarian troops continue their successful advance.

Airborne Landing

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Maj Engineer Veselin Stoyanov]

[Text] Maneuvers area, 30 September (by our special correspondent). One of the most characteristic features of the offensive conducted by our troops during the past days has been its decisive nature. This type of offensive is based on the fraternal friendship and close interaction among the different units of the allied armies and their substantially enhanced combat possibilities.

Regardless of its previous lack of success, the "enemy" continues to wage delaying "combat" operations along lines in depth prepared in advance. The offensive is developing steadily, which deprives the "enemy" of the time and opportunity to maneuver with its reserves, bring up material facilities and consolidate his defense.

In order to consolidate results and develop their success in depth, our forces have been ordered to make a landing to destroy "enemy" nuclear weapons and capture important targets in the rear lines. This is an exceptionally complex assignment, for these weapons are distinguished by their high maneuverability and their quick change of positions. They are difficult to reconnoiter because of good camouflage and proper protection. However, any delay in the destruction of such nuclear weapons would enable the "enemy" to deal powerful strikes at our troops and even to defeat their advance....

Under exceptionally difficult weather conditions, with low clouds and uninterrupted rain, the first military transport aircraft advance toward the area. We experience a feeling of veneration as we watch the calm grandiose flight of the Soviet aircraft.

One, two, three..., five..., 10..., 20..., 30..., 50 parachutes are in the air and more and more open.... One of the tasks of the landing is to capture an important target and to create conditions for the further deployment of efforts. The equipment is parachuted. The parachutes with the heavy machines rapidly lose weight and give the impression that in a few seconds they would be crushed on the ground. The next moment, however, the retrojets ignite with a strong counterblast and thanks to this "pillow" the equipment lands smoothly on the ground.

Ever new parachutes "blossom" in the sky and counting them becomes difficult. This is followed by the more interesting launching of equipment with multiple parachute systems each one of which covers several hundred square meters. The fighter aircraft continue to be on guard, preventing even a single "enemy" airplane from reaching the landing area.

The unit currently landing has actively participated in the Great Patriotic War and its personnel has set numerous examples of courage and heroism in the battles for the liberation of Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Today the landing forces include Officer Sergey Kochetov, bearer of the "For Service to the Homeland" order Third Class, for high successes in combat and political training, Commanders of Excellent Subunits Captains Valeriy Dyachuk and Aleksandr Lobanov and Sr Lt Valeri Yuryev, Komsomol members Sgt Oleg Peklich and Private First Class Mikhail Aleksandrov, bearers of the Komsomol Central Committee badge "For Military Valor" and dozens of other officers, sergeants and privates who, immediately after hitting the ground, get rid of their parachutes, rally and swiftly rush in their war vehicles toward the "enemy." The landing subunits are highly mobile and perfectly trained for combat under all circumstances. They consist of party and Komsomol members infinitely loyal to the CPSU and their great homeland, and ready to carry out their patriotic and international duty.

One, two, three..., five..., 10..., 30..., 50.... The words which we hear cannot described the visual and emotional impact of such a landing. While those who have landed last are removing the landing equipment from the machinery, one of the subunits has almost completed the destruction of the "enemy" in the target area to the northeast. Meanwhile, the anti-aircraft subunit has already assumed combat positions in order to protect the entire group from the hits of the "enemy" from the air, who is tirelessly trying to wreck the landing. The missile battery has also assumed firing positions and is ready for battle.

The landing forces succeed in surmounting the "enemy" resistance and seizing and securing all targets, after which they convert to defense until the main forces, which are not far, approach! They keep coming, thanks to the daring fliers and courageous paratroopers!

Description of Airborne Landing

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 82 p 3

[Article by Maj Drago Ivanov]

[Text] One after another the transport aircraft take off. The noise of the engines increases and the land begins to fly under the wings and gradually disappears. Skillfully led by First Class Pilots Officers Petr Belinskiy, Tadeusz Rasztemborski, Richard Gwardiak and others, the airplanes confidently fly toward their assigned area.

The paratroopers and Lt Jan Flinta are in the aircraft commanded by Officer Janusz Koper. Some of them attentively check their equipment, straighten up belts and tighten up something else. Others are talking quietly among themselves while others again have their eyes focused ahead.

The flow of thoughts is interrupted by a yellow light. Like one all stand up and assume their position in line. Final preparations. The eyes stare at the signaling lights. Green light! The first, with a habitual movement, removes himself from the end of the barrier and plunges into the air. He is followed by a second, third, a fourth,... the sky becomes dressed in white silk.

Bursts of automatic weapons fire become increasingly frequent. The fire-spitting weapons are getting closer to the ground. The first troops of Lieutenant Flinta's company hit the ground. With precise actions Privates Boleslaw Jezorowski and Slawomir Mendziski, Private First Class Miroslaw Banaszkewicz and Sr Cpl Andrzej Madej get rid of the parachutes and swiftly rush toward the "enemy." The ground becomes covered with silk. Among the increased submachine gun fire we can hear the most accurate mortars. The power of the attackers is growing steadily and an increasing number of paratroopers join the "battle."

The "enemy" is unable to hold on and falls back, leaving his trenches. They are immediately occupied by the paratroopers from the platoons commanded by Second Lts Tadeusz Pinkowski, Janusz Glazar and Jan Bulek. The defense system is organized accurately and rapidly. Concealed behind the parapets the mortars are accurately firing at "enemy" fire and armored targets. In this sector the "battle" initiative is being increasingly assumed by Lieutenant Flinta. The assigned target has been captured. Now the fast and initiative-minded actions are replaced by intensive efforts for the engineering installation of the company strongpoint. Despite the uninterrupted "enemy" fire, the paratroopers have dug in, are laying mine obstacles and accurately firing with all weapons. During this period the best action is scored by sections commanded by Sr Cpl Andrzej Madej and Cps Jezi Skrajni and Roman Jasszemski, shock trooper Private First Class Stanislaw Majerczik, mortar launcher Private Andrey Szikora, signalman Private Daniel Konderski, and driver Private First Class Wojciech Budilowski.

The "enemy" does not accept the loss and attacks fiercely but all his efforts are in vain. The company commanded by Lieutenant Flinta is firing accurately and is selflessly defending the captured area.

The "enemy" become fiercer with every passing minute. It is becoming increasingly difficult to hold the area. However, the high skill and combat mastery have their say and the "enemy" efforts to attack are repelled. The circular defense is operating impeccably.

Dust rises in the horizon in the direction of the "front line." The tanks and armor of the allied armies are swiftly rushing in the direction of the landing. This aid doubles the strength of the paratroopers.

Lieutenant Flinta issues orders to the sappers of Platoon Sergeant Walczek as to when to blast passages and how to mark them, after which he resumes command of the defense. Orders can be heard correcting the fire, thus strengthening the faith in the final victory.

Like a wave of steel the allied forces are approaching the landing area. Passages have been opened through blasting and marked with colored smoke. At full speed tanks and war vehicles enter the battle order of the company.

The "enemy" is given no time to recover. Having totally lost the initiative, he rapidly withdraws to better lines. The allied forces begin their pursuit.

The weather-beaten faces of the paratroopers in Lt Jan Flinta's company are smiling. They have reason to be pleased. They and their comrades in the unit commanded by Officer Stanislaw Mazurkevicz carried out their assignments perfectly.

Patriotic War Recalled

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 1 Oct 82 p 3

[Article by Col Petko Radoev]

[Text] Whenever I participate in large-scale exercises I think of the Patriotic War. As a former front line veteran I discover something close and exciting, something remembered forever. I still recall the emotion I felt on the eve of my first battle with the Hitlerites.

That is why I understand the excitement of the tank personnel of the unit in which Officer Nenov serves. Everyone has his own way of experiencing such moments. The radio broadcast the command "Carry out 'Avalanche!'"

The next moment red rockets blossomed against the dark background of the cloudy sky.

At that point I recalled the autumn of 1944, the Patriotic War. That day the entire battle order of the 27th Chepino Regiment rose to its first attack as an avalanche and there was nothing that could stop it.

Excited and sweating we rushed into the enemy trenches. We engaged in hand-to-hand combat. The frightened Krauts began to raise their hands and to surrender. Others ran away, but some continued to resist. Many of our comrades were killed by enemy bullets.

Soon afterwards, the Hitlerites met our irrepressible thrust with even more desperate resistance. Steadily intensifying enemy fire nailed us to the ground.

At that supreme moment, all of a sudden Soviet aircraft came out of the clouds and dropped their deadly load on the German bunkers ahead of us. It was like a magic wave which rolled over the troops, and our swift attack became irrepressible.

Now, I kept watching the powerful tank attack with pleasure and admiration.

With its accurate fire the tank commanded by Jr Sgt Ivanov contributed to the successful destruction of an "enemy" gun in the area of a nameless hill.

Advancing in a column, the tanks of the company of Lt Pekhlivianov and Sr Lt Nedelchev increased their speed and swiftly deployed in platoons, converting to battle order along the line, and penetrated the "enemy's" defenses in active combat.

During this exceptionally tense moment Soviet aircraft flew at dizzying speed above the tanks and dropped their bombs. We saw the fire of the explosions and the entire area trembled.

The excellent companies of Sr Lts Indzhov, Mateev and Petrov continued their rapid advance and went through the "enemy" lines at the exactly planned time.

The high combat spirit and the swift seizure of the assigned area created conditions for continuing the headlong wedging into "enemy" defenses.

The tank actions were one more trial and test of their courage. During the "battle" they proved their readiness to fulfill their sacred duty to the people and the homeland.

'Shield 82' Meeting-Parade

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 pp 1,3

[Report by Major Engineer Veselin Stoyanov and Captain Ivan Sotirov]

[Text] Burgas, 1 October (by our special correspondents). "Shield 82," the joint exercise conducted by the fraternal armies, commanded by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense, categorically proved the unity and combat might of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces. It expanded and intensified even further their international friendship and comradeship in arms and contributed exceptionally greatly to upgrading the knowledge and improving the practical

skills of commanders and staffs in preparations for and engaging in combat operations.

Today the troops, which proved their high skills, organization and interaction with their tanks, war vehicles, armored troop carriers, ships and airplanes over several days, inspired by the bright ideas of Marxism-Leninism, unity and fraternal love are lined up in ranks in front of the reviewing stand. This is the concluding and most solemn part of "Shield 82," the field meeting-parade of the participants in the maneuvers. It is awaited by thousands of people. They welcomed Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and State Council chairman, with exceptional warmth and cordiality. He was joined on the stand by Comrades Aleksandur Lilov, Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Milko Balev, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Georgi Yordanov, Dimitur Stanishev, Chudomir Aleksandrov, deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers, secretaries of the BZNS Standing Committee, heads of BCP Central Committee, members of the government, first secretaries of okrug BCP committees and other officials.

Present on the stand were the military delegations of the socialist countries which attended the "Shield 82" maneuvers, Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces and Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces.

Also present were heads and members of diplomatic missions of the socialist countries accredited to Bulgaria.

Colonel General Khristo Dobrev, first deputy minister of national defense, who commanded the parade, gave the orders, "Parade, dress!" "Attention!" "Present arms!" He then approached Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense, who received the parade, and reported: "Comrade minister of national defense of the Bulgarian People's Republic, the representative units of the armies of the Warsaw Pact members in the field parade on the occasion of the conclusion of the "Shield 82" maneuvers are in formation."

Army General Dobri Dzhurov reviewed the ranks and greeted the troops of the fraternal armies on the occasion of the successful completion of the "Shield 82" maneuvers," to which they responded with hurrahs. This military response continued in powerful waves even after the parade recipient marched to the stand.

The band played the Internationale.

Colonel General Kiril Kosev, chief of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army opened the field meeting-parade and gave the floor to Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense (published separately).

The personnel of the fraternal armies responded to the speech with a powerful hurray.

Colonel General Kiril Kosev gave the floor to Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces (speech published separately).

Once again the speech was followed by shouts of hurray.

The combined band played the march of the Joint Armies.

The personnel, lined up in formation in front of the motorized columns were ordered to take their seats in the war vehicles and combat equipment....

In the course of several days, side by side, the flags of the Warsaw Pact members flew on crossroads, in the camps of the units of the fraternal armies which participated in the joint exercise, and during meetings and ceremonies which developed into vivid manifestations of the combat friendship and cooperation, sincerity and readiness for self-sacrifice for the sake of the great cause of defending socialism. Today as well the flags are flying side by side, as are the troops participating in the parade. These flags will always fly together, in the way the armies of the peoples of the Warsaw Pact members are together, joined in their objectives, tasks and interests -- the building of a new society and its armed defense against imperialist encroachments.

The start of today's parade clearly confirmed this. It began with a line of seven helicopters carrying the national flags of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia. Excellent pilots officers Yachev, Ivanov, Roydev, Naydenov, Simeonov, Georgiev and Zhelev had the honor of carrying the flags.

Shortly afterwards, three groups of combat helicopters, led by first class pilots officers Georgiev, Andreev and Iliev, flew swiftly and low over the reviewing stand. During the maneuvers we had the opportunity to observe the high flight-tactical skill of the air force in the course of the various events and to assess the great role of the army air force in modern combined-arms combat.

Supersonic fighter aircraft, led by first class pilots officers Yovchev, Videnov and Georgiev flew over wingtip to wingtip. They serve in the air force unit in which the beginning of the new age in combat aviation thundered for the first time in Bulgaria -- jet airplanes. This combat collective is the heir to glorious traditions related to the mastering of the new jet equipment, the training of the first wing of Bulgarian first class flyers, successful attacks of balloons launched by Western intelligence centers during the cold war and a number of high achievements in combat and political training in previous years.

Three groups of fighter-bombers, led by masters of accurate strafing and bombing officers Parapunov, Pavlov and Karlyukov, flew over thunderously and consecutively in the space of several seconds. During the exercise, strike groups of the same unit destroyed important "enemy" targets with precise strafing, missiles and other types of ammunition in support of the advancing forces. One of the most typical features of this combat group is the steady

improvement of its flight and tactical skills. For a number of years the unit has been among the leading ones in combat and political training.

Soviet fighter-bombers, led by master of combat handling officer Kolvakhov, fly swiftly overhead. Strike groups belonging to this guards air force unit, which was formed in 1940 and entered the Great Patriotic War in September 1941 with SB-1 bombers and later IL-2 divers, acted with exceptional skill during the "Shield 82" maneuvers. Today's generation of flyers are worthy heirs of the great traditions they inherited from the front-line veterans. In honor of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR the entire personnel have pledged to carry out on a high quality level all combat and political training assignments.

A group of Soviet front-line bombers, led by first class pilot officer Malinov, marks the powerful end of the air parade...

The field troop parade begins.

Led by parade commander Colonel General Khristo Dobrev, a mechanized column of the BNA approaches the reviewing stand. Worthy heir of glorious combat traditions, the BNA today is a modern armed force, a reliable defender of our socialist homeland and a guardian of peace and socialism. As a result of the tested guidance and constant care of the BCP and thanks to the selfless fraternal aid of the Soviet Union today our army has highly trained military cadres and modern weaponry and ordnance. Georgi Dimitrov's behest that our army be built like the Soviet army and that it learn day and night from its combat experience and martial art is being honored. During the "Shield 82" maneuvers the Bulgarian troops proved not only their ideological convictions and readiness to defend the gains of socialism but their high combat skills as well.

The personnel of the Hungarian People's Army, who participated in the exercise, celebrated their combat day on Bulgarian soil. They celebrated their army day not only at a solemn meeting but also on the "battlefield," where, shoulder to shoulder with their comrades in arms, they carried out their assignments. Riding in one of the war vehicles passing in front of the stand is Captain Ferenc Balog, motorized infantry battalion commander. During the maneuvers he displayed his excellent martial knowledge and command skill.

They are followed by the column of the National People's Army of the GDR. During the maneuvers officer Horst Stendel, battalion commander, displayed his excellent organizing skill. Last year his battalion was awarded the SED Central Committee honor badge for high-quality implementation of the tasks set by the 10th SED Congress, while he personally was awarded the silver medal "For Services to the NPA of the GDR."

The Polish soldiers, heirs to great combat traditions, are now marching past the stand. Their unit was created in 1944 on USSR territory and covered a heroic combat path shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet army. It took part in the battles for the liberation of Warsaw, the capture of the Pomorze Rampart and Kolobrzeg and the crossing of the Oder. It was awarded the honor title of "Pomorze" for combat merit in the liberation of the Pomorze Province

and Kolobrzeg in 1945. It is also the bearer of other high awards, such as the Grunewald Cross, Virtuti Militari and the Labor Banner first class.

Lieutenant Jan Flinta is one of the commanders who earned a high rating during the "Shield 82" maneuvers. For the last 4 years he has commanded a paratrooper regiment and has led in the socialist competition.

Representatives of the legendary and invincible Soviet army are marching past the stand. During the exercise the Soviet soldiers once again set models of command skill and combat mastery, courage and heroism, proving that they are worthy heirs of the combat glory of their fathers.

One of the units which took part in the exercise was created 40 years ago, during the Great Patriotic War. It received its baptism of fire at Stalingrad and was awarded the title of "Guards" for courage and heroism displayed in the fierce battles in 1943. It has covered a glorious combat path and has been awarded the Orders of Suvorov, Bogdan Khmelnitskiy and Combat Red Banner. Twenty-two of its troops have been awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union. Two of them -- Master Sergeant Nikolay Grigorevski and Sergeant Nikolay Reva -- are permanently on the unit's roll-call. In times of peace the unit continues to develop its traditions. Loyal to its patriotic and international duty, it is skillfully mastering the peaks of combat skills.

The infantry's war vehicles are parading past the stand. Riding in one of them is Captain Vladimir Khusarov, commander of an excellent motorized infantry company. He is the battalion's party organization secretary and member of the unit's party committee. He has commanded the company for the past 3 years and all that time the company has invariably led in the socialist competition..

The column of the Czechoslovak People's Army marches past the stand. This unit was created in 1944 in Sada Gura Village in the Ukraine. After brief training it participated in the Carpathian-Dukla operation together with the Soviet forces. On 10 May 1945 it took part in the decisive battles for the liberation of the Czechoslovak capital.

Sr Lts company commanders Jaroslav Fridrich and Alois Janicek distinguished themselves with their excellent actions during the exercise.

Tanks, motorized infantry, artillery, landing forces, rocket forces and anti-aircraft personnel solemnly march past the stand... Soldiers with different skills and uniforms but united by their joint international duty -- the defense of peace and the socialist gains of our fraternal peoples. Both during the combat exercise and now, at the parade, they have shown their power, might, unity and cohesion and inflexible loyalty to the ideals of communism!

End of 'Shield 82' Maneuvers

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] (BTA) Maneuvers of staffs, troops and navies of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, code-named "Shield 82," were conducted on the territory of the

Bulgarian People's Republic and the adjacent Black Sea water area from 25 September to 1 October 1982.

The maneuvers were under the command of Army General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defense of the Bulgarian People's Republic.

Problems of combat coordination and interaction among formations and units of the branches and arms of the allied armies were developed in the course of the maneuvers.

The maneuvers took place in an organized and instructive manner. They proved the improved operational-tactical training of staffs and ground, air and naval training of the troops and navies. They contributed to the further strengthening of the combat cooperation, development of proletarian internationalism and friendship among the personnel of the Joint Armed Forces.

The maneuvers' targets were reached. The troops, navies and staffs which participated in the maneuvers are returning to their permanent locations.

Formal Luncheon

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] Burgas, 1 October (BTA). Today the BCP Central committee and the Council of Ministers gave a formal luncheon in honor of the completion of the "Shield 82" maneuvers of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

The luncheon was attended by Comrades Todor Zhivkov, Aleksandur Lilov, Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Milko Balev, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Dimitur Stanishev, Chudomir Aleksandrov, deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers, secretaries of the BZNS Standing Committee, heads of BCP Central Committee departments, members of the government and other official personalities;

Members of the military delegations of the socialist countries which attended the exercise, Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces and Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces; and

Heads and members of the diplomatic missions of the socialist countries, accredited to Bulgaria. During the luncheon Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and State Council chairman delivered a speech (published separately).

A speech was also delivered by Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR minister of defense (published separately).

The luncheon was held in an exceptionally cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Todor Zhivkov's Speech

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 pp 1-2

[Text] (BTA) Dear guests, representatives of the armed forces of the members of our great socialist comity, comrades:

I am pleased to be once again among you at this friendly luncheon and to be able to congratulate you most warmly on behalf of the BCP Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo and on my own behalf on the occasion of the successful completion of the joint "Shield 82" maneuvers.

As loyal supporters of Marxist-Leninist ideology and the socialist social system, the communist and worker parties in our countries are pursuing a consistent and firm foreign policy of peace and peaceful coexistence, the resolution of disputes through peaceful means, an end to the arms race, disarmament, and mutually beneficial political, economic, scientific and technical and cultural cooperation with all countries and peoples.

This kind of foreign policy yielded substantial results during the 1970s. We shall pursue even more persistently this policy developed in Comrade Leonid Brezhnev's report to the 26th CPSU Congress in the course of the present decade, regardless of the obvious preparations for war against us carried out by imperialism.

We reject the rule that if you want peace you must prepare for war. However, nor do we intend for those who are preparing for war to catch us unprepared. That which we have created while building socialism, our present and our future and the very existence of life on our planet are the very important values protected with our military power, too important to allow third world war "crusaders" to change the ratio of forces in their favor!

The combat skill of the troops, the coordinated actions of commanders, staffs and forces of the allied armies in the organization and conduct of modern operations and the entire course of the joint "Shield 82" maneuvers, which took place on Bulgarian territory, clearly and unequivocally proved that the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact members are on the level of the requirements of modern warfare and the hopes and faith which our peoples and the working people the world over put in them. In the autumn of 1982 our armed forces are a reliable shield of socialism and peace and there is no price we are not prepared to pay so that they may remain such for as long as we are threatened with war!

"United in Peace and Battle and in Defense of the Cause of Socialism!" was the "Shield 82" motto. It is also the motto of the Warsaw Pact member countries, our parties and our peoples.

Extremely aware of the fact that the Soviet Union remains the main bulwark of the Warsaw Pact and the entire socialist comity and that the Soviet army is the backbone of the Joint Armed Forces we, the Bulgarian communists, our entire people, deem it our supreme patriotic and international duty to

strengthen our fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation with the land of the soviets, Lenin's party and the Soviet people and their armed forces!

Our Soviet brothers and the peoples of the other fraternal socialist countries can rest assured that whatever the circumstances, pressures or trials may be, socialist Bulgaria will remain inflexible loyal to our great fate of builders and defenders of the new world!

As to the Bulgarian People's Army, it will continue to do all that is necessary to remain a worthy ally of its comrades in arms and, together with them, to be ready to oppose properly any aggressor and to carry out its patriotic and international duty.

Dear Comrades:

Allow me once again to express the great gratitude of the BCP Central Committee, the State council and the government of the Bulgarian People's Republic to all troops and commanders who took part in this splendidly organized and exceptionally instructive exercise, to the commander of the exercise Army General Dobri Dzhurov and his deputies and to Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces and his staff for their efforts, and to all of you for your invaluable work and courage and willpower displayed in achieving the objectives and tasks of the maneuvers.

A toast to:

Our communist Marxist-Leninist parties -- inspirers and leaders in the building and defense of the socialist and communist society;

The friendship and fraternal cooperation among the countries and peoples of the socialist comity;

The health and success of the personnel of the armies of the Warsaw Pact in their noble work and struggle in ensuring the collective defense of socialism and the peace and security of our peoples;

Your health, dear comrades!

Your health!

Speech by Marshal Ustinov

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 pp 1-2

[Text] (BTA) Dear Comrade Todor Zhivkov, dear comrades and friends:

Allow me on behalf of the military delegations of the Warsaw Pact members and on my own behalf to express to you, dear Comrade Zhivkov, the BCP Central Committee and the government of the Bulgarian People's Republic our profound gratitude for your warm words on the communist and worker parties and peoples of the members of the socialist comity and the personnel of the friendly

armies, and to thank you for the attention you paid to the training for and conduct of the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

Allow me to express my profound gratitude to the Bulgarian people for the warm and friendly welcome offered to the members of the allied armies.

Allow me too, on behalf of the heads of the allied armed forces and of all participants in the exercise to express my heartfelt thanks to the leadership of the Bulgarian People's Army and Comrade Dzhurov, minister of national defense of the Bulgarian People's Republic, for the good organization and implementation of the exercise.

It is with great pleasure that I present to you, Comrade Zhivkov, and to all those present the friendly combat greetings and best wishes of Marshal of the Soviet Union Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman!

As a fighter for the happiness of the people and the cause of communism and peace and as a zealous internationalist Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev is always concerned with strengthening the socialist comity and guaranteeing its safety. He closely followed the training for and holding of the recently completed "Shield 82" maneuvers, which he considered a most important military-political measure.

The maneuvers were held in the immediate aftermath of the celebration of the 38th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria. Within a short historical period fraternal Bulgaria covered a long distance. As sincere friends of your country we are pleased by the achievements of the Bulgarian people in building developed socialism and wish you with all our hearts the successful implementation of the decisions of the 12th BCP Congress!

Comrades:

The members of the socialist comity are united by true internationalism and fruitful mutual relations based on friendly mutual aid and interest in mutual successes and the profound realization that the destinies of our peoples and countries are inseparable. The unity of the ideals and objectives for which we are struggling extends to literally all areas of life of the socialist peoples and bind them with unbreakable ties.

This fully applies to military affairs. The Warsaw Pact reliably guarantees the safety of the socialist comity. As comrade L. I. Brezhnev has pointed out, "It has everything necessary for the firm defense of the socialist gains of our peoples and we shall continue to do everything possible to preserve this state of affairs in the future."

Guided by the instructions of our communist and worker parties, the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces are steadily perfecting their combat skills. The "Shield 82" maneuvers were an important link in their training. They proved that the defense power of the fraternal countries and the entire socialist comity has been strengthened even further. They proved the increased organizing ability and training of commanders in chief, commanders, staffs and

political organs and the high moral and combat qualities and training of the personnel of large units, units and ships and the reliability and efficiency of the combat materiel with which the allied armies are equipped.

The most important result of the maneuvers is that they contributed to strengthening the combat cooperation among the allied armies and the training of the troops in a spirit of socialist and proletarian internationalism. They were a major contribution to the training of the Joint Armed Forces.

However, while we justifiably point out the high-level training of the allied armies, we should not be satisfied with our achievements. We must mobilize even further our common efforts in order to ensure further improvements in the training of the troops and navies, in equipping them with modern weaponry and in steadily upgrading their cohesion, vigilance and combat training.

These steps are made necessary by the aggravation of the international situation and the increased aggressiveness of the United States and the other NATO members. The course pursued by the United States and NATO is aimed at undermining detente, disturbing the balance of power and gaining military superiority over the members of the socialist comity.

The United States is pursuing a dangerous hegemonic policy in the Middle East.

This situation and the aggressive intentions of the imperialist circles demand of us tirelessly to upgrade the defense power of the members of the socialist comity. Their growing unity and cohesion, the unbreakable combat alliance of our armies and the joining of our efforts in ensuring the safety of the socialist comity are the decisive prerequisites for the preservation of the revolutionary gains of the fraternal peoples and peace on earth.

Allow me once again to express my most heartfelt gratitude for the attention given to us and the warm welcome and offer a toast to:

New successes by our peoples in building socialism and communism!

Further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the fraternal socialist countries and the combat alliance among their armed forces!

The health of Comrade Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and State Council chairman!

The health of the great friend of the working people of the Bulgarian People's Republic and of all members of the socialist comity, Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev!

The heads of communist and worker parties of our countries!

The good health of everyone here!

Speech by Army General Dzhurov

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 pp 1-2

[Text] (BTA) Dear Comrade Zhivkov, dear soldiers of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact, Burgas Okrug working people, dear guests, comrades:

On behalf of the BCP Central Committee and Comrade Todor Zhivkov, its general secretary and State Council chairman, on behalf of our government and on my behalf I welcome you to the parade which marks the conclusion of the joint "Shield 82" maneuvers.

Allow me to express my sincere gratitude to the population of Burgas Okrug and the other okrugs on whose territory the maneuvers were held and to all Bulgarian citizens who, without disturbing the labor rhythm in while carrying out the plans earmarked at the historical 12th BCP congress, did everything possible to ensure the success of the maneuvers and welcomed warmly the troops of the allied armies so that they could feel among brothers.

Dear comrades in arms of the Warsaw Pact armed forces:

The joint operative-strategic "Shield 82" maneuvers have ended. They were one more vivid manifestation of the friendship, unity and cohesion among our countries and peoples and our armed forces united in the Warsaw Military and Political Alliance. The working people and the armed forces of the Bulgarian People's Republic are proud of the fact that the maneuvers were held on the territory of their homeland. Your short stay on Bulgarian soil enabled you to experience the hospitality of our people, to study their great past and to see with your own eyes the results of their peaceful constructive labor and inflexible will and resolve to follow the path of socialism toward the bright communist future.

Thirty-eight years have passed since the 9 September revolution which won with the decisive help of the invincible Soviet army. During that short historical period the Bulgarian People's Republic changed radically.

Headed by the BCP Central Committee and following the Leninist April line, with persistent work and the fraternal and selfless aid of the Soviet Union and in close cooperation with the other members of the socialist comity, the Bulgarian people honored the behest of Georgi Dimitrov, their immortal leader and teacher: to achieve in a few decades that which, under different circumstances, took other countries an entire century. Today even the enemies of socialism are forced to acknowledge the fact that new Bulgaria is a blossoming socialist state with a high and stable pace of socioeconomic growth, inflexible moral and political unity of the people and steadily growing material and spiritual well-being.

Being in the fraternal socialist family is of decisive importance to Bulgaria's successful socioeconomic development. "We know," Comrade Todor Zhivkov said, "that our state and people can successfully defend their

independence and territorial integrity and increase their socialist gains only as a strong and indivisible link of the socialist comity."

Firmly united with the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, the Bulgarian People's Republic is making its contribution to the struggle for peace, democracy and socialism and the development of the world's revolutionary process. Our party and Bulgarian people firmly and actively support the peace program of the CPSU as their own and the new peace initiatives and proposals of the Soviet Union, formulated by Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, the remarkable peacemaker of our time.

The Bulgarian People's Republic is pursuing a peace-loving principled foreign policy. It is doing everything necessary to strengthen the unity and power of the socialist comity, the development of good neighborly relations in the Balkans and the strengthening of peace and security the world over. This is the purpose of the idea of turning the Balkan Peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, an area of good neighborly relations, understanding and cooperation and of Comrade Todor Zhivkov's suggestion of holding a summit meeting in Sofia to discuss this exceptionally important and vital problem.

Some Westerners may ask why was Bulgaria the host of this joint exercise of Warsaw Pact staffs and forces? Why is it that the country which hosts the World Parliament of Peace and which, only a month ago, hosted the Second Banner of Peace Assembly, and which is now hosting the regular international writers' conference on peace and detente has made its territory available for the "Shield 82" maneuvers?

I think that the very name "Shield 82" answers these questions. We are not saber-rattling or threatening anyone. Our maneuvers are not aimed at anyone of Bulgaria's neighbors or any other country. They are entirely consistent with the truly peaceful and coordinated policy pursued by the Warsaw Pact members in the international arena with the most humane purpose of safeguarding and strengthening peace and detente, protecting mankind from thermo-nuclear war and securing the gains of socialism and the safety of nations. The progressive and honestly thinking people throughout the world are becoming increasingly convinced that the Warsaw Pact serves the greatest good of mankind -- peace. The Warsaw Pact's exclusive contribution is that for the fourth decade running the peoples of Europe are living in peace. The Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact members have placed their entire economic and military potential on the service of peace and the security of the peoples. The valorous troops of our armed forces, tanks, airplanes, ships and war vehicles protect the inviolability of our lands, preserve the purity and tranquility of our skies and protect the constructive toil of the builders of communism and socialism and the happy and carefree life of the children.

Such were the lofty assignments of the just completed "Shield 82" maneuvers, a task which you, its participants, carried out with honor.

Imperialist policy is the exact opposite. It is leading the world toward war and doom. By the end of the 1970s and the start of the 1980s the leading U. S. circles charted a course of undermining detente and intensifying the arms race and attempts to implement the American aspirations of global domination,

suppression of the liberation struggle of the peoples and, in the final account, changing the ratio of forces in favor of imperialism. By adopting a military budget of unparalleled scale in mankind's history, the ruling U. S. circles proclaimed the latest "crusade" against socialism and engaged in real ideological, psychological and economic warfare against our comity.

The United States is persistently involving its NATO partners and Japan in its aggressive preparations concealed behind the myth of the "Soviet military threat." The facts irrefutably prove however, that the military threat, real rather than imaginary, comes from NATO and the United States above all.

Mankind is quite concerned by the claim of Washington's politicians that they consider "some things more important than peace" and by their concept of "limited" nuclear war. U. S. imperialism is starting hotbeds of tension in various parts of the world. It is trying to impose in international relations the methods of threats and diktat and is grossly interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign countries. The United States inspired and protected Israel's barbaric aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian population.

Unable to crush the Palestinian resistance, Israel and its protectors organized bloody excesses against the civilian population of Beirut and turned the Lebanese capital into a slaughterhouse for Palestinians and Lebanese. This is the result of the strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States and the so-called "Reagan Plan." We are distraught by Israel's aggression and genocide of the Palestinians. This also triggers our concern, for all of this is taking place not far from our own borders. A just and lasting peace can be achieved in the Middle East on the basis of the principled ideas formulated by Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev. We fully support the proposals of the Soviet Union.

In the present difficult situation the Soviet Union and the socialist comity are doing everything possible to eliminate the threat of war, to improve the international climate and to preserve and intensify detente.

The Warsaw Pact as well serves the noble objectives of peace and progress. Its members have combined their political, economic and military might not for the sake of starting a war but with a view to preventing it, to defending the socialist gains of our peoples from imperialist aggression and to safeguarding world peace. That is why as long as the imperialist countries will be increasing international tension and accelerating their military preparations the Warsaw Pact members will be strengthening their defensive alliance, maintaining the combat might of the Joint Armed Forces on the necessary level, developing the Marxist-Leninist martial science and training their armies to inflict a decisive defeat on any aggressor. We do not want war and will not use our military power against any peace loving country. We do not aspire to gain military superiority over the West, but nor do we intend to allow the West to achieve military superiority over socialism. As Comrade Todor Zhivkov pointed out at the international theoretical science conference on the occasion of the centennial of Georgi Dimitrov's birth, strategic parity between the two worlds is a major victory for socialism and a prime factor in the preservation and consolidation of world peace. No one should

doubt that in the case of aggression on the part of imperialism the Joint Armed Forces will be able to protect the gains of socialism and the independence and territorial integrity of the members of the socialist comity.

The present maneuvers, which were held under the slogan "United in Peace and Combat in the Defense of the Cause of Socialism" were a vivid manifestation of our readiness and ability to repel decisively anyone who would dare to encroach on socialism and the peace and security of the peoples. I am very pleased to express the joint view of the maneuvers' command, the official visitors and of my own to the effect that they were held on a high level and that their objectives and assignments were achieved. They proved the high-level preparedness of commanders, staffs and troops, their ability to organize and engage in modern combat, their excellent mastery of weapons and ordnance and their high moral and political spirit.

This exercise provided real training in the patriotic and international upbringing of the troops and the development of their high moral-political and combat qualities. In the course of the preparations for and holding of the exercise exciting meetings of friendship, youth entertainment and concerts and trips to historical and economic sites took place.

Here, on Bulgarian soil, the essential features of our military and political alliance were displayed once again: class solidarity, socialist internationalism, inviolable fraternal friendship and closest possible cooperation, comradely mutual aid and coordinated actions in the interest of peace and socialism, equality and respect for the legitimate rights and interests of all countries.

We shall continue to widen and deepen these valuable achievements of the socialist comity and to do whatever is necessary for the further strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the Warsaw Pact members, with the clear awareness that it is precisely such unity and cohesion and our joint economic and military power that offer the safest guarantee for the preservation of peace, blocking the path of war and restraining all amateurs of military adventures.

Dear comrades in arms:

Allow me once again to congratulate you on the occasion of the successful completion of the "Shield 82" maneuvers and to wish you good health and new successes in your highly responsible efforts and the implementation of the historical mission of our armed forces -- the protection and defense of the gains of real socialism and peace.

My wish to the personnel of the fraternal allied armies who will be departing for their own countries tomorrow is for them to remember their stay in socialist Bulgaria and to trust that here, on this stormy crossroads of the Balkans, they have and will have loyal friends and comrades in arms and a strong and reliable Bulgarian shoulder on which they can lean at all times.

May our battle ranks become stronger!

Long live the unity and friendship among the countries and peoples of the socialist comity and their solidarity with the great Soviet Union!

Forward to new successes in the struggle for the defense of socialism and peace throughout the world under the leadership of our communist and worker parties!

Hurray, comrades, for the inviolable unity and comradeship in arms among our fraternal armies!

Speech by Marshal Kulikov

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 pp 1-2

[Text] (BTA) Dear Comrade Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and Bulgarian People's Republic State Council chairman, dear comrade ministers of defense of the socialist comity, comrade generals, admirals, officers, ensigns, midshipmen, sergeants, soldiers and seamen of the fraternal armies, dear citizens of Burgas City and Okrug:

On behalf of the military delegations of the socialist countries here present, headed by the ministers of defense, the General Headquarters of the Joint Armed Forces and all participants in the maneuvers, allow me to express our sincere gratitude to the BCP Central Committee, Comrade Todor Zhivkov, the republic's government and the entire Bulgarian people for the warmth, attention and concern shown toward the allied forces during the exercise.

All of us shall remember most warmly our stay in your hospitable country -- the country whose heroic people celebrated the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the 38th anniversary of the socialist revolution and the Bulgarian People's Army.

We know the persistence and labor upsurge with which the Bulgarian people are building a developed socialist society.

The peoples of the fraternal countries are very pleased by your achievements and have no doubt that the successful fulfillment of the tasks set by the 12th BCP Congress will accelerate Bulgaria's advance toward new socialist heights.

The "Shield 82" maneuvers were an important joint undertaking of the allied armies and a report on their readiness jointly to defend the revolutionary gains of the socialist countries and peace on earth. This was a superior form of comprehensive training of the participating forces. The maneuvers proved the enhanced level of operative-tactical training of commanders and staffs and the ground, air and sea training of the armies and navies. They ensured the reciprocal exchange of experience among the allied armies in a spirit of proletarian internationalism and the further strengthening of the comradeship in arms among the personnel of the Joint Armed Forces.

The maneuvers helped to develop problems of combat coordination and interaction among formations and units of the different arms and branches of the

allied armies and to resolved the important and difficult problems set by the central committees of our Marxist-Leninist parties, aimed at upgrading the combat power of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

Comrades:

The members of our unbreakable alliance, united by their common objectives and ideals, are confidently advancing in their economic and sociopolitical development, engaged in a steady and persistent struggle for lasting peace on earth. However, we are forced to solve our constructive problems under difficult international circumstances. The imperialist circles, those of the United States in the first place, continue to spoil the global situation.

The supporters of the cold war are trying to promote conflict situations and to interfere in the domestic affairs of other countries.

In their desire to achieve military superiority over the USSR and the Warsaw Pact, the North Atlantic Bloc, the United States above all, are trying to change in their favor the existing balance and to establish American domination on a global scale.

Washington has proclaimed military power as the main and almost exclusive "preliminary condition for peace." One after another, adventuristic concepts of nuclear war are being formulated overseas.

Human blood is being shed by the fault of imperialism in various parts of the globe. The world is being constantly shaken up by the flames of local wars and military conflicts any one of which could spread to neighboring areas and grow into a world war.

This is no mere chain of isolated conflicts but a specific manifestation of attempts on the part of imperialism to influence by force the development of events in various parts of the earth and to secure favorable conditions for the implementation of its "direct confrontation" policy toward the USSR and the socialist countries.

The open imperialist attempts to aggravate the situation in the socialist countries, to weaken our comity and to undermine the Warsaw Pact are a real threat to peace.

All of this proves that more than ever before we must take specific steps to put an end to the arbitrary behavior of the aggressive forces. This requires of the allied armies constant vigilance and the enhancement of their combat readiness and capability.

Our communist and worker parties have created the necessary conditions for the steady development and advancement of the Joint Armed Forces with a view to the implementation of this priority task.

The allied armies are equipped with first-rate weapons and ordnance. They have highly trained officer cadres and politically mature and united personnel raised in a spirit of patriotism and socialist internationalism.

Dear Comrades:

The personnel of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces are serving under battle flags hallowed by the victorious glory earned in the fierce battles against the enemies of socialism. They are sacredly preserving and increasing the heroic traditions of the senior generations. This is manifested in the high results of their daily combat and political training, which were fully revealed in the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

Bearing in mind the difficult international situation, we shall continue to improve our knowledge and to take systematic steps which will help us to maintain on the necessary level the high combat readiness of the troops and navies in order to repel any aggression.

Let us be on our guard and never forget the aggressive nature of imperialism. Let us remember the lessons of history and support the steps toward peace by increasing our combat readiness. These Leninist instructions have always been and remain the inflexible behests for the entire personnel of the Joint Armed Forces.

"We created a military and political alliance of the socialist countries," pointed out L. I. Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, "above all in order to counter the threat of imperialism and the aggressive military blocs it created and to defend through joint efforts the cause of peace and socialism."

Glory to our communist and worker parties, which are confidently leading our peoples toward the victory of communism!

Long live the inviolable friendship and cooperation among the fraternal socialist countries!

May the combat alliance among our armed forces become even stronger!

Long live the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, standing guard over peace and socialism!

Awards Presented to Military Leaders

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] (BTA) Yesterday Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central committee general secretary and State Council chairman presented the "Georgi Dimitrov Centennial" anniversary medal to the military leaders of the socialist countries.

This distinction is being awarded by State Council ukase for active participation in the preparations for and holding of the "Shield 82" maneuvers and their contribution to strengthening of the fraternal friendship and cooperation among the armies and peoples of the socialist comity.

The recipients of the award were warmly congratulated by Comrades Aleksandur Lilov, Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Milko Balev, Petur Tanchev, Stanko

Todorov, Georgi Yordanov, Dimitur Stanishev, Chudomir aleksandrov, and Grigor Stoichkov and Georgi Karamanev, Council of Ministers deputy chairmen.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov presented gifts to military personnel of the fraternal armies for high successes achieved during the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense, presented the "Georgi Dimitrov Centennial" anniversary medal to the members of the military delegations of the socialist countries on the occasion of the "Shield 82" maneuvers, the deputy commanders of the maneuvers and generals and officers of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

Zhivkov Hosts Reception

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 p 3

[Text] (BTA) Todor Zhivkov, State Council chairman, hosted a reception in honor of the participants in the "Sofia 82" international writers' meeting at the Boyana Residence last evening.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov warmly greeted the creators of contemporary fiction on the occasion of the successful completion of their prestigious encounter, which was held under the slogan "Peace Is the Hope of the Planet," and wished them further and even greater successes in their humane and highly noble work. The State Council chairman spoke of the exceptionally important role of the writers in the creation of spiritual values and stressed their contribution to strengthening peace and security in the world and to human happiness.

The reception, which took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, was attended by comrades Aleksandur Lilov, Milko Balev, Petur Tanchev, Georgi Yordanov, Dimitur Stanishev, Stoyan Mikhaylov, Chudomir Aleksandrov, State Council Deputy Chairman Georgi Dzhagarov and heads of BCP Central Committee departments.

Departure of Military Delegations

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 p 3

[Text] (BTA) The military delegations of the fraternal armies, led by Army General Lajos Czinege, minister of defense of the Hungarian People's Republic, Army General Heinz Hoffmann, SED Central Committee Politburo member and minister of national defense of the GDR, Armor General Florian Sziviczki, PZPR Central Committee Politburo candidate member and interim minister of national defense of the People's Republic of Poland, Lieutenant General Constantin Olteanu, Romanian Communist Party Political Executive Committee candidate member and minister of national defense of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR minister of defense, and Army General Martin Dzur, minister of national defense of the Czechoslovak Socialist

Republic, who took part in the "Shield 82" maneuvers, left for their respective countries yesterday.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, and Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff of the Joint Armed Forces, and the military delegations of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, headed by Colonel General Le chong Tan, deputy minister of national defense and chief of general staff of the Vietnamese People's Army; of the Republic of Cuba, led by Lieutenant General Sene Casas Regeiro, Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member and first deputy minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; and of the Mongolian People's republic, led by Colonel General Jarantayn Abhia, minister of national defense, also left the country.

At Burgas airport the military delegations received a warm send-off by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, BCP Central committee Politburo member and minister of national defense, commander of the exercise, Colonel General Atanas Semerdzhiev, first deputy minister of national defense and chief of general staff of the Bulgarian People's Army, Colonel General Kiril Kosev, chief of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army, Zhishev, first okrug BCP committee secretary, and BNA generals and officers.

The ceremony was attended by the ambassadors and military attaches of the socialist countries whose delegations departed. Also present were Colonel General Vladimir Yakushin, representing the commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces to the BNA and generals and officers from the fraternal armies, who participated in the "Shield 82" maneuvers.

Profile of Soviet Pilot

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 2 Oct 82 p 3

[Article by Major Engineer Veselin Georgiev]

[Text] Captain Dmitriy Plakhtiy is particularly happy to serve in an air force unit which started its combat path during the dramatic days of July 1941 and became famous in the flaming skies of the Great Patriotic War. Forever listed in the roll-call of this unit will be the daring pilot Timur Frunze, son of the famous Soviet military commander. Together with his comrades, Captain Plakhtiy is a worthy heir of the frontline flyers who took active part in hammering out the great victory over fascism.

According to a great pilot, philosopher and writer, all this comes from childhood. If such is entirely the case we would be hard put to understand how Dmitriy began his road toward the sky, his father having spent the entire war in regimental reconnaissance. His father is also the bearer of the Combat Red Banner Order for his participation in the taking of Berlin and a number of other high awards. Nor did his mother influence his choice, for she too was in reconnaissance in the group of the famous Nikolay Kuznwetsov. She speaks 14 languages fluently, is the bearer of many orders and medals and is an honored teacher of the UkSSR. She had hoped that Mitya would follow in

the family tradition like his elder sister Irina, who teaches French and German in a secondary school.

"Neither my two brothers nor I became teachers," somewhat apologetically said Captain Plakhtiy. "Oleg is an engineer with a successfully defended candidate dissertation, while Aleksandr is a construction worker in Kiev. Lyudmila, our youngest sister is a chef in Cherkassy. As you can see, life has its demands and laws.

"I think that Oleg was the one who played the main role in my taking up flying. Whenever he came home on leave he described at length and enthusiastically the unit in which he served. This enthusiasm "contaminated" me entirely. I became one of the most active members of the airplane modelling circle in school and hit the books even more persistently. I applied to the military commissariat for flying school with trepidation, as I considered flyers to be exceptional people.... Anyway, I had made up my mind and applied for the Chernigov Higher Air force Academy imeni Leninskiy Komsomol. It was my great luck to be accepted."

My interlocutor proudly named cosmonauts Andrian Nikolayev and Petr Klimuk and other famous test pilots graduates of that school. Particularly memorable to the young student was his first flight with an instructor on an L-29 training jet airplane. Everything seemed to him unusual and infinitely interesting, for before that he had not even flown in a commercial airplane.

After his graduation from the military academy in 1973, Lieutenant Dmitriy Plakhtiy received his first posting in an air force combat unit. Within a short time he mastered a new airplane model and without serious difficulties mastered one after another flight exercises in the combat training course. Even before he had acquired adequate experience, a particular event in flight seriously tested his knowledge, skill and self-control. Immediately after takeoff, at an altitude of 10-15 meters above the ground, a bird fell into the airplane's intake system. The pilot kept his cool despite the smoke which penetrated into the cockpit and the unstable performance of the engines. He continued his flight, circled and landed safely.

One does not have to be a pilot to imagine the type of feeling experienced during 5-6 minutes when a disaster is expected any minute....

"This is not my first visit to your wonderful country," Captain Plakhtiy told me. "I met at a military airfield the twins Grigor and Detelin Trevnenski, who are unanimously considered to be very good pilots and friends. In our squadron, when I look at the bust and picture of Timur Frunze, who brought down two fascist airplanes in a fierce battle and who died in uneven combat, it seems to me that I have not done anything significant in my life so far. However, I try with all my heart to unravel all the secrets of the flying profession in order to be worthy of the memory of the heroes and, wingtip to wingtip with the air forces of the other fraternal armies, to defend the great achievements of the socialist comity."

Commentary on 'Shield 82'

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] The exercise of staffs, troops and navies of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, code-named "Shield 82," has ended.

The maneuvers became a major event in the life of the fraternal armies. It proved the further increase in the defense power of our Socialist comity and the increase ability and training of commanders, political workers and staffs in organizing the interaction among armed forces under conditions maximally resembling actual combat, martial skills, high combat spirit, physical training and mental endurance of the personnel of formations, units and ships in performing responsible assignments in various types of combat. The maneuvers greatly contributed to upgrading the combat readiness and capability of the Joint Armed Forces and to strengthening comradeship in arms.

The level of training of the forces was tested in the course of resolving combat problems. The close interaction among staffs, commanders and political organs presented a good opportunity for conclusions regarding subsequent trends, forms and methods of training and provided a valuable contribution to the method of organizing and conducting large-scale exercises.

A test of combat maturity is a suitable description of the activities of the motorized infantry, fliers, tank troops, engineers, landing troops and seamen, who displayed courage, dedication, self-control, and iron military discipline. The ship and unit personnel displayed high field, flight and sea training and increased skills in handling the complex modern combat equipment and armaments.

"The combat skill of the troops," Comrade Todor Zhivkov said in his speech at the formal luncheon after the maneuvers, and the coordinated activities of commanders, staffs and forces of the allied armies, displayed in the course of the organization and conduct of modern combat operations and the entire course of the combined "Shield 82" exercise, which took place on the territory of the Bulgarian People's Republic, proved clearly and unequivocally that the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact-member countries are in step with the requirements of modern warfare and on the level of the hopes and faith in which our peoples and the working people the world over have in them as a reliable shield of socialism and peace. Such are our armed forces in the autumn of 1982 and there is no price we are not prepared to pay to maintain them as such until no one threatens us with war!"

The "Shield 82" maneuvers were of important military-political and educational significance. The unity among the brothers in arms, class and ideas, and their boundless devotion to socialist internationalism and combat brotherhood were manifested to their fullest extent in the course of the joint initiatives, meetings for the exchange of progressive experience, the recreation evenings and the tense nights and days of combat operations.

Mutual respect and trust were developed in all of them during the difficult and dynamic exercise period. The troops saw in each other reliable

fellow-fighters on whose loyalty and unconditional help they could rely whatever the circumstances.

"We are brothers in class and in arms in the socialist military alliance, raised and led by our Marxist-Leninist parties, vigilantly standing guard over peace and the safety of our peoples and all peoples of Europe. We are watching over peace and security by relying on the unity and cohesion of the socialist states.... We shall not surrender even a single foot of socialist ground!" This excerpt from the oath of the soldiers of the fraternal armies sworn by them at one of the joint exercises most aptly express the unbreakable friendship which unites the soldiers of the socialist countries. This friendship is based on the single socioeconomic and political system of the socialist countries, Marxist-Leninist ideology and loyalty to the principles of socialist internationalism. The armed protection of the gains of socialism is the supreme duty of the allied armies which are fulfilling this sacred duty with honor.

One more characteristic feature of the troops in the fraternal armies was clearly manifested during the "Shield 82" maneuvers -- their firm ties to the people. Hospitable Bulgaria and the industrious Bulgarian people welcomed the troops in the maneuvers area like loyal friends and comrades in arms. An atmosphere of friendship, cohesion and unity of interests and objectives prevailed everywhere -- at ceremonies, encounters with labor collectives in industrial enterprises and farm workers, in friendly talks with the local population during the brief rest periods and in the field parade in Burgas. As flesh of the flesh of the people the troops, sergeants and officers of the allied armed forces proved to the rest of the world that they are reliable defenders of the interests and gains of the working people. "Our Soviet brothers and the peoples of the other socialist countries," Comrade T. Zhivkov pointed out, may rest confident that under all circumstances, pressures or possible trials socialist Bulgaria will remain inflexibly loyal to our common great destiny of builders and defenders of the new world!"

The personnel of the fraternal armies are aware of their lofty mission of defending socialist gains. Today the nations of the world are in a difficult and dangerous period. In recent years the leading U. S. circles have mounted increasingly dangerous actions against the socialist countries and world peace. The unrestrained arms race launched by imperialism, the "economic and ideological warfare," the antisocialist and antiprogress "crusade" launched by the U. S. President and the "strategic plan" for "protracted" nuclear warfare adopted by the American military and political leadership are heating up the international situation. Imperialism is starting hotbeds of tension in various parts of the world. It is trying to impose in international relations the methods of threats and diktat and is rudely interfering in the internal affairs of sovereign countries. It inspired and protected the barbaric Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian population and the bloody slaughter of children and old people.

This demands the even greater strengthening of the brotherhood in arms and the power of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces. Their growing unity and cohesion, the invincible combat alliance among our armed forces and the unification of our joint efforts in securing the safety of the socialist

comity and the preservation of peace in the world are the decisive guarantee for the preservation of the revolutionary gains of the fraternal peoples and peace on earth.

GDR Major's Impressions

Sofia NARODNI ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Sr Lt Evgeni Genov]

[Text] Major Gottlieb Korda, from the GDR National People's Army, and I became good friends. We shared a number of things and interesting events from army life. However, the "Shield 82" maneuvers came to an end and the time to part arrived. Before he left, I asked him:

"What are your feelings as you are about to return to your country? What will you remember from your meetings with Bulgarian soldiers?"

His answer was as follows:

"I have visited your country twice before. The second time was 10 years ago. I was happily surprised by the changes which have taken place since then. I was impressed by the extensive housing construction and the modern plants and enterprises. I was also greatly impressed by Bulgarian agriculture. Your homeland resembles a garden in bloom. I talked with many cooperative farmers and they all expressed their great satisfaction with the party's policy. The population welcomed us with smiles, flowers and fruits, as brothers in arms. I shall never forget our meetings with soldiers from the Bulgarian and the other fraternal armies. We always managed to find a common language and feelings. We acted jointly on the "battlefields," and enjoyed our rest and recreation together. After the joint "Shield 82" exercise we became even closer to and needed by each other. We improved our readiness and ability to defend the cause of socialism and peace."

It so happened that on several occasions I had the opportunity to observe the skill of Private Robi Elstner. He handled skillfully the communications equipment and coped even during the most difficult situations. When we parted he told me frankly:

"I will miss Bulgaria very much. I will miss my new friends from the Bulgarian, Soviet and Polish armies...every single one of them. Together we shared joys and hardships. Our combat friendship became even stronger. We became used to one another and now we find it hard to separate. What makes me most happy is that, to the best of my possibilities, I was able to see your homeland. Those who have seen it love it forever. This love conquers us and forces us to return and to visit the cherished and loved sites."

Time will pass, but the memory of the days spent in comradeship and mutual help will never pale.

'Shield 82' Impressions

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 1

[Report by Sr Lt Stefan Shopov]

[Text] Our special correspondents spoke with members of the fraternal armies on their impressions of the "Shield 82" maneuvers and Bulgaria. Following are some of their answers:

Sr Lt Krasimir Daskalov:

"I am glad that I had the honor to participate in the "Shiled 82" maneuvers. The field days were stressed but we found time to exchange experience in combat and political training, to engage in sports competitions and to enjoy ourselves during the youth dance meets.

"Linguistic barriers were surmounted during the very first days of informal relations which developed among the participants in the exercise. Nor will we forget the joint armored combat order in which we attacked the "enemy."

"In the course of these numbered days I improved my command-organizing and military practical training. I leave proud of the fact that my homeland hosted such a large joint exercise.

"I am convinced that the "Shield 82" maneuvers played their proper role in strengthening the combat power of the Warsaw Pact and the reliable protection of our socialist gains."

Private Nikolay Mateev Shopov:

"For the first time I had the luck to meet with members of the fraternal armies and to feel our combat power in the course of the swift joint attack. We surmounted the difficult periods surrounded by the warm friendly shoulders of our comrades in arms.

"Although I will be discharged soon I shall correspond frequently with my Soviet friend Jr Sergeant Volodya Galayko and other soldiers from the allied armies. Our joint actions during the maneuvers convinced me that our strength lies in unity.

"We shall be together everywhere, in peace and in battle, dear combat friends!"

Parting Statements

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] "What are your feelings as you depart for your homeland?"

Lieutenant Bogdan Tworkowski:

"Personally I came to love Bulgaria and will return as soon as possible with my wife and daughter. This time, as tourists, we shall have a good time by the Black Sea.

"We saw a great deal during our stay. I met with a number of working people. The Bulgarians are splendid hospitable people. I attended several talks in which experience was exchanged with other political workers from the fraternal armies. This will be very useful in my future work.

"My comrades and I are pleased with the perfectly performed task during the maneuvers and the fact that we acted united and jointly with the other fraternal armies. I am proud to belong to the united steely ranks of the Warsaw Pact -- a powerful bulwark of peace throughout the world."

Corporal Tadeusz Radzieta:

"I leave with an excellent impression of Bulgaria and its people. I have the addresses of my new friends -- Petur, from the Bulgarian People's Army and Sasha, from the Soviet army.

"I am pleased that my comrades and I were able to carry out our assignment precisely and on time, to prove our unity and the power of our defensive alliance and, together with the fraternal Warsaw Pact armies, headed by the Soviet army, our readiness to defend selflessly the gains of the world socialist comity.

"During the maneuvers we proved that we are strong because we are united and are defending peace and progress. It is with this feeling of confidence that I leave beautiful, hospitable, sunny and peace-loving Bulgaria.

Interview With Czechoslovak Political Officer

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 2

[Interview conducted by Captain Lyubomir Denov]

[Text] Jan Prokopovic, a political officer of the Czechoslovak People's Army impresses us with his warmth and cordiality. The age difference between us is substantial, but fails to affect me. I see a smiling face which invites closeness.

"I have been engaged in political work from the very first day of my army service. It is the meaning of my life," Officer Prokopovic said. "I decided to become an officer as a result of two unforgettable events. The first was my encounter with Georgi Dimitrov, the leader of the Bulgarian people, during his trip to Czechoslovakia in 1947. The second was joining the ranks of the communist party 1 year later."

[Question] Tell us more about your encounter with Georgi Dimitrov.

[Answer] I was an adolescent and had just begun to study Marxist-Leninist theory. I was full of enthusiasm and the desire to work. I was included in the group of young people who were to welcome Georgi Dimitrov, the great son of your people. You have no idea what this meant to me. Dimitrov was world famous, the idol of our youth.

[Question] What do you remember of that meeting?

[Answer] I cannot forget even the slightest detail, but what I am saying is that Georgi Dimitrov is my model in life. He came to Czechoslovakia not only as your country's prime minister but also as a person who loved our country and its people. I considered him both great and close to me.

[Question] Were you familiar with Bulgaria?

[Answer] Only from the words of your leader and teacher and from books, newspapers and the television. But what I have seen greatly exceeds my expectations. I am particularly impressed by the warmth and cordiality of the Bulgarians.

During our training in Czechoslovakia I told my soldiers and my children what I had heard Georgi Dimitrov say in 1947. When I go back I shall tell everyone that you are fulfilling his behests honorably and worthily.

[Question] What are the characteristic features in the work of the political worker you consider most valuable?

[Answer] Closeness with the soldiers. This is of vital importance to every one of us. The soldier will trust you if he knows that you are not only his superior but his close friend as well.

[Question] You speak Russian well. Where did you learn it?

[Answer] To answer this I should probably tell you about my father. During the Great Patriotic War he was in General Ludvig Svoboda's army, shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet troops. Ever since then our family has loved the Soviet Union and its people, and that is how I came to know Russian.

[What is the most difficult feature in your political work?

[Answer] The most difficult? It would be impossible to answer this. Party political work is complex and difficult. It knows no periods of calm and tranquility. Whoever wants to be a good political worker must forget about tranquility.

[Question] What was the main emphasis in your work in connection with the "Shield 82" maneuvers?

[Answer] Before leaving Czechoslovakia we went through an intensive program of study of the past and the present of your beautiful country. I frequently spoke on my encounter with Georgi Dimitrov. We paid particular attention to the international upbringing of the troops. Naturally however, all our

efforts were focused on enhancing the combat spirit and creating the necessary mood for the great test. I am convinced that our joint exercise proved not only our combat strength and power but also the inflexibility of our socialist comity.

Polish Troop Quiz on Bulgaria

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Major Engineer Dragomir Gospodinov]

[Text] Long before the start of "Shield 82" gunner Stanislaw Plechowicz and his comrades in the battery of Lt Janusz Glowinski began to rehearse for the "Bulgarian People's Republic -- Our Ally" quiz. They repeatedly visited the library in search of the necessary answers. They also extensively used selected publications in their unit library (similar to our Dimitrov Room -- the author). The quiz took place during the maneuvers.

My conversation with gunner Plechowicz, which took place during a short break following the completion of an assignment, gradually turned to the beauty of Bulgaria and the charm of its people.

"Bulgaria is a beautiful country. It has a very good climate and wonderful people who are concerned with its further economic and cultural well-being. We made many friends and let me tell you that all of them are open, warm and always ready to help." Plechowicz listed names and examples. They were quite varied but showed the strengthening of friendship between Polish and Bulgarian army men and their confidence in the strength and power of the Warsaw Pact members headed by the great Soviet Union.

Personal experience convinced me that here as well, during the exercise, the young tank driver spared no effort to develop and consolidate his achievements as an excellent specialist. Whether using his submachine gun or artillery piece he hits his target with the first shot. Dexterous, inventive, initiative-minded and responsive, this Polish soldier sets the example for his comrades.

Now, on Bulgarian soil, together with his comrades, gunner Stanislaw Plechowicz displayed excellent results during the exercise, showing his love for the fraternal soldiers and his loyalty to our great objective -- communism.

Parting Reflections

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] Sr Lt Khristo Boyadzhiev, landing ship commander:

"I am a young officer and these are my first maneuvers of this kind. We carried out our sea-landing assignment properly mainly thanks to the precise and coordinated actions of our collective. I am particularly pleased by the opportunity to improve the interaction among the ships of the entire unit,

act in various weather conditions and work together with motorized infantry and tanks. This is not our first sailing trip with our Soviet comrades in arms of the Red Banner Black Sea Fleet. However, it was on this occasion that I was able to have a very close look at the actions of my Soviet friends and to learn from their valuable experience. I was impressed by the great precision shown in interaction among the individual ships during the landing "waves." The flaps were dropped at a minimal distance from the shore, which increased the striking power of the motorized infantry and tank subunits. "Shield 82" became a great combat training course for me!"

Officer Irzi Tesarzik, Czechoslovak army political worker:

"The Czechoslovak soldiers will retain a vivid memory of the "Shield 82" maneuvers. Here, on Bulgarian soil, we found many new friends and enriched our experience as commanders and political workers. There are no secrets among friends. This truth was confirmed yet once again during our preparations for combat actions and during the test itself. I am happy to have had the opportunity to meet with political workers from the fraternal armies and to participate in meetings to exchange experience in organizing effective and purposeful party-political work. Particularly useful in this connection was the experience we gained from our Soviet colleagues. We are pleased by the interaction which we achieved during "combat" with the Hungarian forces and particularly with the members of the Polish People's Army, for our unit bears the honor title of "Czechoslovak-Polish Friendship Unit!"

"'Shield 82' is already history. It proved once again that the shield of socialism cannot be pierced and that our alliance is unshakable!"

Sr Lt Sandor Sinkovicz (Hungarian People's Army), motorized infantry battalion deputy commander for political affairs:

"Allow me to begin by expressing my warm thanks to our Bulgarian friends for everything they did to make our stay in Bulgaria useful and pleasant. It was indeed very pleasant, for it was here, in your land, that our combat unity became even stronger and our friendship richer. In Bulgaria we proved once again that if we are united and cohesive peace and socialism are in safe hands. The "Shield 82" maneuvers were completed successfully. They became another vivid proof of the friendship and unity among the Warsaw Pact armies.

"Our visit to your country was very agreeable. This was a first visit for many Hungarian troops and commanders. We had wonderful meetings with soldiers and the young and working people of socialist Bulgaria, which will remain unforgettable. We take back with us the sun and beauty of your homeland and unforgettable memories. Allow me to end by repeating myself: Thank you, splendid Bulgarian comrades, we thank you for everything!"

Private Gabor Mokoj, excellent machine-gunner (Hungarian People's Army):

"I leave Bulgaria with sincere regrets. I like everything here very much. You can be proud of your beautiful homeland. I am proud to have spent such unforgettable days with great and loyal friends. I leave Bulgaria with the thought that I leave here a part of my heart. I leave, even more confident

that our friendship is unbreakable and that our joint strength can properly rebuff anyone who would dare to disturb the peaceful toil of our peoples.

"Goodbye dear comrades in arms in sunny Bulgaria!"

Private Tivador Guba (Hungarian People's Army):

"I could say a great deal about the unforgettable days on Bulgarian soil, but I shall try to find just a few words to express our feelings before we part. So, you may write the following: We liked Bulgaria very very much! A splendid country and people and loyal friends -- this is what Bulgaria will mean to me from here on!"

Soviet Major on Bulgaria

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 2

[Text] What are your feelings regarding "Shield 82" and on leaving Bulgaria?

Major Nikolay Olifirenko, deputy commander for technical affairs of a marine battalion:

This is not my first participation in joint exercises of fraternal armies. I am convinced that "Shield 82" reasserted the fact that the unity and cohesion among our armies, and the strengthening of friendship and like-thinking of our troops and commanders are created through our joint actions. This is the result of our common ideology, objectives and tasks which face our countries and peoples. Such exercises clearly prove the power of the Warsaw Pact armies and one realizes that they are the only force capable of stopping the war lovers in the West and wrecking the aggressive imperialist intentions.

The "Shield 82" maneuvers are of great importance in upgrading the skill of commanders and the combat mastery of the troops. As a technical officer, let me emphasize that here we saw once again the high combat capabilities and excellent qualities of our weapons and combat ordnance.

This is not my first visit to Bulgaria. I participated in the "Rodopi" exercise. This is a country I love and respect. Once again I felt the sincere love of the Bulgarian people. A few apples offered by an elderly woman, a hand raised in salute, children asking their elder brother for a Soviet badge and friendly smiles are only part of the concrete manifestations of the pure and bright friendship between us.

Let me emphasize, however, that the same type of love and respect we came across in town and country was shown toward the soldiers of the other fraternal armies as well. This proves the maturity of the Bulgarian people and their loyal internationalism.

We are defending peace and socialism in our fraternal alliance, linked by warm friendship and comradeship in arms, unity of thought and readiness for joint action.

Leading Artillery Unit

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Captain Pet'o Dafinkichev]

[Text] Skillful activities distinguished Guards Lt Leonid Kosenovskiy's platoon during the maneuvers. His artillerymen shortened the norm for firing from a sheltered position by 10 percent. No single shell missed the target.

I asked him how he, a young officer with relatively short experience, was able to achieve such high results.

"Dedication," he answered and, in order not to appear immodest, added that he deems it a law to give of himself everything he has -- his knowledge, efforts and skills -- for only this gives him the right to demand the same of the soldiers. "Our platoon," he added, "includes members of many nationalities. On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR we made high pledges. Our platoon is capable of excellent results."

I had the opportunity to observe his work with the soldiers. It was not merely the fact that he had blended with the crews and was doing everything necessary to inspire them, for this would not be a complete description of the invisible means through which he was transmitting his iron will and resolve always to be first among the first.

Crew commander Junior Sergeant Vartan Yegyan said:

"We are champions because we try to keep up with the platoon commander, but he always stays ahead of us. My crew has men of four different nationalities but all of us equally value our commanding officer and are ready to follow him everywhere."

I asked the guards lieutenant if he considered the exercise an incentive for the full display of strength.

"Naturally," he answered. "Together, we aspire to maximal achievements. But I also train my platoon not for exercises but for victory, should this become necessary. Therefore, I consider "Shield 82" more a test of our combat readiness to stop any aggressor and an opportunity to share our experience with the comrades in the fraternal armies. We must leave enriched with new knowledge and even stronger faith in the invincibility of our fraternal armies."

Soviet Military Relate Impressions

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Captain Petio Angelov]

[Text] Before the departure of the Soviet army units I asked Guards Sr Lt Andrey Matitsyn, Military Valor Medal bearer, to describe his impressions on leaving Bulgaria and what he will remember of the "Shield 82" maneuvers:

"The Soviet troops and commanders took a new step forward in their military and professional growth. The high rating awarded to us is the proper result of our dedicated work. It gives us satisfaction and a feeling of legitimate pride. However, unwittingly we also feel sadness caused by our imminent departure. As is frequently the case, at such times we remember not only battlefield events but recent meetings and trips in hospitable and beautiful Bulgaria. I remember the marbled streets of the beautiful Tolbukhin, hear the military band in the main square and recall the march "Great Is Our Soldier," which I liked very much. Nor will I forget the bouquet of flowers presented to me by Kalinka, the second grader..."

"I will be home soon, where relatives and friends await me. I am confident that my stories about Bulgaria and its wonderful working people are being awaited eagerly. I am happy to have felt in the course of "Shield 82" once again the friendship and goodness of our Bulgarian comrades in arms and the entire Bulgarian people and to have admired their amazing ideological and political maturity."

I addressed the same question to Guards Private Stepan Kara, excellent mechanic-driver of war vehicle.

"I come from a line of Bulgarian settlers in Moldavia from before the Crimean War," he said. "Our family name is Kirev. I am infinitely happy to have had the opportunity to visit the land of my forefathers. Anything Bulgarian is close and precious to me. I will take to my Soviet homeland a handful of Dobrudzha's fertile chernozem. Our platoon operated jointly with Bulgarian motorized infantry. Whenever it seemed to me that they were slowinj down the pace of the advance I whispered in my telephone headset, "Come on, brothers, a little more, faster," in the language we speak at home. It is somewhat obsolete but is pure Bulgarian over 150 years old.

"I am leaving with a feeling of warmth in my chest and with legitimate pride that Bulgaria, which was once tortured and torn by the enslavers, has become such a modern and beautiful country. I hope to see it and the Bulgarians -- my blood brothers -- on many more occasions."

Statements by Marshal Kulikov

Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 3 Oct 82 p 4

[Text] Moscow, 2 October (BTA). On the occasion of the completed "Shield 82" joint maneuvers by the fraternal armies, Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces stated the following to O. Moskovskiy, TASS correspondent:

The joint command of the Joint Armed Forces and the national commands of the allied armies, which are devoting constant efforts to ensure the high-quality solution of defense problems facing the socialist comity, pay particular attention to joint exercises such as "Shield," "Brotherhood in Arms," and others which, along with the staffs, involve the participation of the armies and navies of all or most of the members of our defense alliance.

It is in the course of such exercises that problems of combat coordination and close interaction among the units and subunits of the different arms and branches of the allied armies are resolved most successfully. At the same time, the practical actions of the troops enable us to test the accuracy of our military theory on the nature and means of armed struggle, the realistic nature of norms and the computations made by the respective staffs in planning operations and combats.

The "Shield 82" maneuvers were an important joint initiative of the allied armies and a report on their readiness to defend through joint efforts the revolutionary gains of the socialist countries and peace on earth.

It was a superior form of comprehensive troop training. It confirmed once more the increasing theoretical level of operative-tactical training of commanders and staffs and the army and navy ground, air and sea skills.

The maneuvers helped us to resolve major and difficult problems set by the central committees of the fraternal parties on upgrading the combat power of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces.

The circumstances under which the maneuvers took place were difficult. Rugged mountains, wide water obstacles, forests and difficult weather conditions greatly hindered the actions of the trainees.

I am pleased to note that despite all such hardships the units and subunits displayed high professional skills and the ability to make effective use of modern weaponry and materiel on the battlefield and to operate daringly and energetically in "combat," showing initiative and creativity.

It would be hard to name the best. All staffs and armies displayed high levels of training. Particularly impressive however, were the actions of units and subunits in piercing "enemy" defenses through helicopter and sea landing and bypassing in mountainous terrain. They were not only organized, instructive and dynamic but, I would say, daring as well. The artillery, airplanes and helicopters struck at the "enemy" in a coordinated and accurate manner.

Each new joint exercise conducted by our allied armies and navies is one more important step in strengthening proletarian internationalism and friendship among the personnel of the Joint Armed Forces.

The situation during the exercise and the solution of common problems by the fraternal army units bring them closer to each other and strengthen their reciprocal trust and friendship.

The "Shield 82" maneuvers are one more example of the strengthening combat cooperation among the fraternal armies and the steady aspiration of our countries to strengthen their defense union -- the Warsaw Pact. They provided excellent training in raising the troops in a spirit of constant readiness to carry out their duty and to defend the gains of socialism instantly and with dedication."

Prague, 2 October (BTA). The Czechoslovak public followed with great attention the "Shield 82" maneuvers of the Joint Armed Forces of Warsaw pact member countries. It was regularly informed through the press, radio and television of their successful course and the excellent interaction among the formations and units of the armed forces and branches of the allied armies.

RUDE PRAVO emphasized in today's issue that the "Shield 82" maneuvers proved the strength and inviolability of the fraternal friendship and the unity and cohesion among the peoples and armed forces of the Warsaw Pact members.

The newspaper emphasized the assessment of Marshal of the Soviet Union Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces to the effect that the maneuvers took place on a high combat level with excellent interaction among forces and staffs in resolving difficult combat problems.

Berlin, 2 October (BTA). During the past few days the "Shield 82" maneuvers were one of the main topics of the press, radio and television. Today's press publishes front-page reports on the successful completion of the maneuvers and the impressive parade held in Burgas.

Also extensively covered is the speech by Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee general secretary and State Council chairman, delivered at the official luncheon, emphasizing his statement that the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact members are on the level of requirements, hopes and faith which our peoples and the working people the world over have as they consider them a reliable shield of socialism and peace.

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CSO: 2200/6

RESULTS OF 12TH CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS ASSESSED

Sofia ANTENI in Bulgarian 22 Sep 82 p 11

[Article by Zakhari Zakhariev: "Clear Path for Pragmatism"]

[Text] Deng's People in the First Echelon

Face-Saving Retirement of Old Key Personnel

One of the features of the recently concluded 12th Chinese Communist Party Congress is that, unlike the three preceding congresses since the end of the "cultural revolution," it took place under comparatively normal conditions. The decision to convoke it was made at a regular plenum of the CCP Central Committee, the agenda was announced, and regular--albeit incomplete--information about its progress was issued.

The 12th CCP Congress did not glitter with any original theoretical formulations. Rather, it made partial corrections and refined and polished old positions. The three basic tasks facing the party and country--socialist modernization, unification of the country, and the struggle against "hegemonism"--had actually been formulated earlier. The present congress only worked out the details and updated them. The same thing could also be said about certain basic ideological and theoretical principles contained in the speech given by the chairman of the CCP Central Committee, Hu Yaobang. It is no secret that the question of the role and place of Mao Zedong and his "ideas," as well as the "leftist errors" in ideology, politics and economics, had been decided at some of the preceding plenums of the CCP Central Committee.

That is why it would hardly be far-fetched to say that the main efforts of the organizers of the congress were aimed at creating organizational structures to bolster power on a pragmatic basis. It is no accident that the congress adopted a new party statute and made substantial changes in the party power structures. Considered from a narrowly party perspective, the congress consolidated the dominant position of the group of pragmatists in the governing party bodies. The structural changes that were made had as their purpose not only to make the party leadership more effective, but also to intensify still more the influence of the key party personnel most directly associated with Deng Xiaoping's line. Now that the decisions regarding key personnel made at the congress are already known, it is clear that the group of pragmatists

control the situation and hold in their hands all the key positions in the party machine. The first echelon includes only politicians loyal to Deng Xiaoping's line. The purport of these personnel decisions is to assure a gradual transition of power into the hands of Deng Xiaoping's followers.

The two main figures, on whom are placed the greatest hopes of continuing the pragmatic course, mapped out and ratified at the congress, are Hu Yaobang, elected general secretary, and Zhao Ziyang, elected chairman of the State Council. To facilitate their activity, the Central Committee was significantly revitalized with younger personnel--convinced adherents of the present pragmatic policy. The partial changes, made in the Political Bureau and the Secretariat of the CCP Central Committee, followed the same reasoning.

What is new in the practice of the 12th CCP Congress is the election of a Central Consultative Council. For the first time, side by side with the Central Committee, a new institution of similar character has been set up. In its composition--172 persons, the newly created Consultative council actually represents another Central Committee. The truth is that its competence is of a consultative character. As is stated in the new party statute adopted by the congress, "The Central Consultative Council will be a political assistant and adviser to the Central Committee."

The main consideration in favor of the creation of this new institution is to facilitate the process of rejuvenating the party leadership. The appeal made in the past two or three years for the retirement of old "second-line" key party personnel is known to have run into difficulties.

According to the statute established by the CCP Central Committee for the consultative councils which will be created at the provincial levels too, "anyone of advanced age and in poor health but who is still capable of serving as a key worker" may be elected a council member. It is not difficult to gather that these councils of elders will formally fulfill the role of a kind of "council of sages." Clearly, the main principle of their establishment is the advanced age and the inability of old key personnel to participate fully in CCP political life. Thus the creation of the new institution makes possible the face-saving retirement of old key personnel who retain, albeit formally, some attributes of power.

There are, however, also more special reasons that make it imperative to create the Central Consultative Council. It is a convenient way of pushing some inconvenient people out of active political life. The fact that its membership includes some former party functionaries eliminated from the Political Bureau, as well as those who have definite reservations about the present pragmatic course, bears out these suppositions.

The fact that Deng Xiaoping, who alone is a member of the CCP Central Committee and of the Central Consultative Council, was also confirmed as its chairman is very significant. Not only will he represent this new institution in the party structures, he also retains the influential post of one of the permanent members of the Political Bureau and--what is no less important--he was once more confirmed as chairman of the CCP Central Committee's Military Commission.

Although the congress did not satisfy the maximum demands of the pragmatists regarding key personnel, it secured for them almost complete domination in key spheres of the governing party offices and can be said to have cleared the path for the present pragmatic policy.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

POLITICAL OPPOSITION IN CSSR

Treatment of Political Prisoners

Hamburg STERN in German No 30, 22 Jul 82 pp 15, 16, 20, 22

[Article by Dieter Bub]

[Text] The "Hole" is a dark, bare dungeon, 6 meters square. It has no windows. A light bulb swings from the ceiling. A few boards lie on the damp concrete floor. The prisoner has to sleep on them. He is given only a thin blanket. His food ration is smaller than that of the other detainees.

The "Hole," as the prisoners call it, is in Mirov Castle near Zabreh, which has served as a prison since the Middle Ages. During World War II a concentration camp was set up in Mirov.

Today, this prison is one of the harshest punitive institutions in socialist Czechoslovakia. With an official capacity of 800 prisoners, up to 1,200 persons are occasionally crammed in together there.

Peter Uhl, a machine construction engineer, has been living here since January 1980. The coinitiator of the civil rights movement "Charta 77" had been sentenced in October 1979 by the Prague municipal court to 5 years imprisonment for "subversive activity." This enemy of the state is now to be systematically eliminated. Uhl is constantly subject to disciplinary punishment and sent to the "Hole."

The objective of prison director Captain Moravek is the physical and psychic destruction of the political prisoner. Moravek announced to his guards: "He won't come out of the Hole again."

In 1980 alone three prisoners committed suicide because of the intolerable conditions in the prison.

If Peter Uhl survives the harassment in prison and is released after serving his sentence, he must expect to be arrested again within a short time, unless he goes into exile, like thousands before him.

Anyone ringing the bell on the second floor at 2 Jeronymova Street in Prague, a corner house from the turn of the century, must be patient. He is being inspected through the peephole. The door is opened only after three locks have been unlocked. A 54-year old, grey-haired woman invites the guest in through a small room into the kitchen-living area. She apologizes to the visitor for having made him wait. In an emergency there would have to be enough time left to destroy incriminating material.

Anna Maranova is one of the three spokespersons of the Czechoslovakian civil rights movement. This evening she and her husband are working. They are putting brightly colored postage stamps from Mozambique into cellophane envelopes for collectors' mail order. Together they earn Kcs 800 per month, the equivalent of about DM 250.

Stifle All Opposition at the Outset

Her apartment and the telephone are monitored, the house is watched, Charta spokespersons are shadowed. Anna Maranova, a member of the Communist Party from 1948 to 1969, a radio journalist for 20 years, is today regarded as an enemy of the state. After the end of the "Prague Spring" she washed dishes and delivered newspapers. Since January she has been supplying information about "Charta 77." Since then, she and her family have been subject to the psychoterrorism of the state security service. Her son-in-law lost his job. He was threatened with further harassment, if he did not break off contact with his mother-in-law.

After STERN's visit to Anna Maranova, her telephone is turned off. She is put under temporary arrest, is interrogated, but is released again the next day.

During the Solidarity strikes in Poland and following the assumption of power by the military, the state security service in the CSSR increased its pressure on critics of the regime in the country. The state leadership is trying to stifle all opposition at the outset with arrests, interrogations, torture, trials and sentencing to harsh punishment.

After Czechoslovakian customs officials on the Austrian border turned up and confiscated exile literature, periodicals and tapes in a French car in April 1981, 36 persons were arrested, 15 were accused of subversive activity, 8 were put in investigative detention. Among them were the writer Eva Kanturkova, the journalist Karel Kyncl and scientists Jan Mlynarik, Milan Simecka, Jan Rumel and Jiri Rumel. Five of them were not released until 11 months later, two of them were released 13 months later, one of them is still in prison. In July 1981, the former Charta spokesman Rudolf Battek was sentenced to 7 1/2 years in prison for counterrevolutionary activity. Punitive persecution of all the accused, among them former Minister of Foreign Affairs Jiri Hajek, continues.

In October, police officers attacked Zina Freundova of "Charta 77" in her apartment, struck her, kicked her, beat her head against the wall, cut off hanks of hair and tore off her nightdress.

During interrogation, critics of the regime Zbynek Benysek, Petr Pospichal, Vaclav Maly, the singers Karel Soukup and Vlastimil Tresnak were beaten, choked and tortured with cigarette lighters and burning cigarettes.

On 14 December, one day after the declaration of martial law in Poland, 11 patrol cars drove up to the house in the Slovenska Ulice. Led by Lieutenant Colonel Karban, police officers forced their way into the apartment of the philosopher Dr Ladislav Hejdanek. Participants in a scientific seminar were gathered in the living room. Together with Hejdanek and his family, they were arrested and interrogated for 24 hours.

From 1968 to 1971 Hejdanek had worked at the Philosophical Institute of the Prague Academy of Sciences. Following his exclusion from the Academy of Sciences, he worked as a night watchman for 5 years and as a stoker for 6 years. Today he earns Kcs 800 per month as a laborer. His wife, formerly a school book reader, has found employment as a typist.

In spite of all these repressive measures, Hejdanek is not giving up and continues to give private lectures. His judgement of the political situation in the CSSR is harsh: "It is a state full of opportunists, to which I will not sell myself!" He thinks that the Charta movement, as a coalition of Communist reformers, socialists and Christians, is important; however, its importance should not be overestimated. An effective opposition in the CSSR still had to be established.

Not only writers and scientists, committed Catholics have also had to suffer under the arbitrariness of the state for decades. For the leadership in Prague the events in Poland, beginning with the strike at the Lenin shipyard in Danzig in August 1980, were a real consequence of the dangerous influence of the Church.

The Church--A Faithfully Devoted Partner

Spurred on by Vasil Bilak, the head party ideologist, a new persecution of Christians began. Along with many others, the Jesuit Frantisek Lizna and the Dominican Jaroslav Duka were declared enemies of the state. Lizna was sentenced to 20 months imprisonment in January 1982, because he had passed six copies of an informational brochure about the situation of the Church in the CSSR to two Catholic priests from the FRG. In December 1981 Duka was given a sentence of 15 months. The prosecution accused him of having conducted religious services without state permission, of having produced and distributed religious literature and of wanting to reestablish the Dominican order. And the Slovak priest Premysl Confal was murdered in the Bratislav (Pressburg) prison.

In order to justify the harsh actions of the courts, the Czechoslovakian press constantly conjures up the ghost of the "secret Church." PRAVDA, the central organ of the Slovak CP in Bratislava, reported in a lead article that political clericalism had grown in strength and was exerting a "reactionary function." In the ranks of the "secret Church" there were "members of the order who hold a civilian job and politically disoriented young people, who are under the spell of mystic Romanticism and are incapable of recognizing what the realities are." The Pope is accused of wanting to weaken the socialist states.

Unlike the situation in Poland, the Catholic Church in the CSSR has been a faithfully devoted partner of those in power. During the Nazi period many clergymen remained silent, others openly embraced National Socialism. It is also true that hundreds were deported to the Dachau concentration camp--only a few returned. Only when the

Church itself became one of the persecuted did it gain a measure of trust among a minority of the population.

After the order was dissolved in 1950 and the monks and nuns were reeducated to become workers and nurses, the Church organization "Pacem in terris" was established as a state means of control. The state forced the installation of bishops faithful to the regime, restricted the practice of religious freedom and persecuted recalcitrant priests with relentless harshness. Currently two archdioceses and seven dioceses are unoccupied. Only a few priests are being trained in the last two seminaries still in existence in Bratislava and Litomerice.

As the order of Franciscans reported just a few days ago, appealing to authorities in the Prague religious underground, special agents have recently been sent after secret religious circles in the CSSR, which exist mainly among students. Attempts are being made, using the most modern intelligence-gathering technical methods, to uncover secretly consecrated priests.

The People--Accomodated and Disinterested

The political and religious resistance in the CSSR is meeting with far less response in the population than is the case in Poland. In Poland, critics of the regime from the KOR movement under Jacek Kuron, with their criticism of the mismanagement of a corrupt Communist party, provided the spark that ignited the strikes and the formation of the independent trade union "Solidarity." In Czechoslovakia critics of the regime have found very few sympathisers among the people so far. The end of the Prague Spring in 1968 was followed by a withdrawal into the personal private sphere. People were politically disinterested, content with a relatively high standard of living, they bought what was not officially available on the black market and took advantage of the opportunities to make trips abroad to Western Europe, which were granted in exceptional cases of political irreproachability.

Prof Jiri Hajek, minister for foreign affairs during the Prague Spring under Alexander Dubcek, is under no illusions: the populace is depoliticized and the civil rights movement is isolated. The frustration of 1968 is still alive. In Hajeks's opinion there are too many spectators, but only a few active participants: "Charta 77 is like a sports team that has sympathisers among the fans, but the fans are unable to play with the ball themselves. It has been proven to the citizens that it is not worth while becoming involved in resisting power. That he can satisfy his consumer needs if he leaves the state in peace."

But the fat years are over. As a result of mismanagement, poor planning and insufficient investment industrial and agricultural production has shrunk radically. Exports to the West have ceased almost completely. The annual growth rate of the national income fell from between 5 and 6 percent at the end of the 1960's to 0.5 percent in 1981. This year it will reach zero.

The population has long since felt the consequences of the economic crisis. In October the prices of heating oil and gasoline were increased by 30 percent. Since February meat, cigarettes and alcohol have increased in price by up to 40 percent. Minor wage increases and improvements in social services have not brought any compensation.

When the miners in the Ostrava coal region, directly on the Polish border, staged a warning strike because of the price increases, Premier Strougal arrived immediately and calmed the workers with wage increases of 10 to 12 percent for above-ground workers and 15 to 18 percent for below-ground workers. The rest of the country remained peaceful. For this reason Jiri Hajek does not believe at this time that there will be major protests: "The situation has become more difficult, but it is still a long way from the stage in Poland."

There is also no fear of any "Polish germ" in the trade union. Three leading officials explained to STERN that following the formation of "Solidarity" in Danzig there was at no time any distrust of the party and the trade union on the part of the workers. Major mistakes had been made in Poland when socialism was made a reality. In Czechoslovakia, on the other hand, everything was arranged correctly. Convinced of their efficiency, the officials praised each other with disarming self-satisfaction. "We acted according to the tenet that where the mass is, the union must also be. We have always reacted sensitively to stimuli. That is why we have overcome all our problems."

The officials ought to know better. The majority of the 7.3 million trade union members does not regard the state and the party with enthusiasm, but with indifference. Head ideologue Vasil Bilak provided the proof personally: In April, in the party newspaper RUDE PRAVO, he criticized the poor work morale of the Czechs and the Slovaks. Anyone who wants to live better, would have to produce more, just as under capitalism.

The populace feels the accusation of idleness unjustified. They do not think of themselves, but the Poles, as lazy.

The aversion to their Slavic neighbors to the north has historical reasons. Many Czechs and Slovaks have not forgotten to this day that the Poles invaded the Czechoslovakian part of Silesia in October 1938. Naturally, this aversion to their neighbors is welcome to the government in Prague.

Today, Prof Jiri Hajek lives in isolation in the garden city of Prague. His house and his telephone are constantly monitored by the state security service. The 69-year old has not been allowed to leave the CSSR for 10 years. He is also forbidden to travel to neighboring communist states. The former minister for foreign affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic puts his hope in a distant future: "I am convinced that socialism in this country can one day overcome its primitive stage. The Prague Spring, this eruption of freedom, has shown us that we are capable of it."

Mlynar, Exiled Former CPCZ Secretary, On Situation

Hamburg STERN in German No 30, 22 Jul 82, p 22

[Interview with Zdenek Mylar, former secretary of the CPCZ, by STERN, "Detente Was An Illusion," in Vienna; date not known]

[Text] STERN: In Poland bottlenecks in supplies have again and again--most recently in August 1980--led to discontentment, protests and strikes. Other countries in

Eastern Europe are now finding themselves increasingly in economic difficulties. Can that lead to developments similar to those in Poland?

Mlynar: It was the experience of the Polish workers in 1956, 1970 and 1976 that certain concessions can be forced through pressure from below. So finally in the fall of 1980 the founding of "Solidarity" came about. In addition, there has always been the Church in Poland as an independent ideological force. These preconditions do not exist in other countries. So even with growing discontent, developments such as those in Poland are not to be expected at the moment. On the other hand I am certain that the basic idea of the developments in Poland, the founding of one's own trade union, will also survive in neighboring countries.

STERN: The United States reacted with economic sanctions to the most recent developments in Poland. What is your opinion of this method?

Mlynar: My objection to short-term political nostrums such as this is that possible long-term negative consequences are not considered.

STERN: Seen from the other side, communist ideologues, like your former comrade Bilak, feel themselves to be justified in their opinion that the ties to capitalism should not be so strong. Aren't we well on the way to mutual economic isolation?

Mlynar: The Stalinists have always been convinced that the communist countries must be separated economically as well from the West. It is my opinion that it is impossible today to separate these two systems from each other economically. Economic relations are independent of ideologies.

STERN: What is the state of the policy of detente between East and West, is it over?

Mlynar: That depends on what we understand by the term policy of detente. In my opinion the policy of detente of the 1970's ran into a dead end because the Soviet Union pursued a policy of dividing the world into blocks during this period. And the great expectations after the Helsinki Agreement of 1975 (Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, CSCE), which was about democratization and relieving human suffering, have proved to be an illusion. The contents of the policy of detente have not matched the expectations of the peoples in the Eastern European countries who were hoping that the ties to the Soviet Union would become weaker and that their countries could develop democratically into a block-free Europe. So the policy of detente has to look for new content, new beginnings.

STERN: How do you judge the chances of groups such as the signatories of "Charta 77" in Eastern European states?

Mlynar: The human rights advocates in Eastern Europe, even in the Soviet Union, were linked very closely with the policy of detente of the 1970's. In recent years these movements have been weakened by the pressure of the state security service and the pressure of the state's power. But also because the old concept of the policy of detente proved to be not quite able to stay alive, a weakening of the human rights movements has occurred. Developing crises in Eastern Europe will result in the opposition forces taking on new forms. And even within the power apparatuses greater currents will form again, which will strive for reforms.

ZSMP DISCUSSES YOUTH ROLE IN NATIONAL REBIRTH

Warsaw SZTANDAR MLODYCH in Polish 15 Sep 82 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Dariusz Korman, vice chairman of the ZSMP [Union of Socialist Polish Youth] ZD [City District Board] "Stare Miasto" in Wroclaw; Robert Bieniek, member of the presidium of the ZSMP ZM [City Board] in Gliwice; Teresa Stwora, vice chairman of the ZSMP ZZ [Plant Board] of the Szombierki mine, Bytom; Danuta Czerepko, worker at the heating and power plant of the Olsztyn Tire plants [OZOS] Stomil; Mieczyslaw Jesionowski, head of the Highway Transportation Department and OKON chairman in largest plant in Olsztyn; Waldemar Jedrzejewski, from the W. Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk; Mark Plotrowski, chairman of the Executive Bureau of the ZSMP ZW [Voivodship Board]; Jerzy Tchorzewski, secretary of the ZSMP ZW in Przemysl: "To See an Opportunity for Yourself"; date and place not specified; passages enclosed in slant lines printed in boldface]

[Text] Today, a plenum of the ZG [Main Board] of the ZSMP is discussing the participation of young people in the organs of state authority, self-government and the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth [PRON].

Eight months have passed since the first elements of Citizens' Committees for National Salvation [OKON] were set up. We have addressed ZSMP members with this question: What is the input and the role of your organization in these committees? What issues and problems are the young people trying to solve by taking part in the patriotic movement? Perhaps their statements will contribute to the proceeding of the plenum?

[Dariusz Korman] In the Stare Miasto OKON, work is underway on setting up a youth work group. We would like all youth organizations to have their representatives in this group. In this way, the scope of the group's activity will embrace all age brackets and social groups among young people.

/At this point, the role of youth in our OKON is small. This is primarily a result of the mistrust with which the young generation is still approaching the committee. Making young people aware of the role OKON can play in making arrangements and solving current problems is a basic issue. This opportunity should be taken advantage of./

The immediate program is, therefore, clear--to propagate the activity of particular committees among the populace to the maximum extent possible, to demonstrate committees in action and the results of their action.

In the framework of our city district board, we mostly take up issues related to housing. Many of our actions meet with success. However, all remain silent about it. Contrary to this situation, we must show this to the people in order to make them really appreciate the significance of this movement, its existence and the work the movement is doing on their behalf.

[Robert Bieniek] I am a member of a youth commission of our local OKON. Similarly, my colleagues from youth organizations, somewhat in accordance with the rules of "apparat," are members of particular commissions and their boards. Our activities are many. However, at present it is difficult to describe youth participation in the movement as broad. To be sure, it is only a beginning. A lot still remains to be done. This kind of social activity requires particular perseverance and persistent action, which we are lacking to a degree. For example, we are trying to bring about the setting up of a club for high school students from our city. Now these youngsters do not have a single place where they can spend their spare time after classes in an attractive atmosphere and, which is also important, at an expense which will not break a student's budget. So far, we do not yet know where the city authorities stand on this issue, and without their close cooperation nothing can be accomplished at this time. How about the young people not exactly participating in the OKON activities? How could it be otherwise, if, in accordance with the old practice, the moment a new committee is organized, a call is made to the relevant ZSMP chapter with an instruction to dispatch a ZSMP representative to serve on the committee? I will say something else on the basis of my personal experience and observation at the meetings of particular commissions /instead of an exchange of views and opinions, often a usual quarrel occurs, which leads the participants nowhere. It is all the more so, because practices and views which are hardly compatible with the comprehensive renewal of our economic life still linger on in some quarters of this movement, not unlike the situation in other [organizations]./

[Teresa Stwora] An employee of our enterprise, who is in charge of the personnel department, represents our OKON at the city and voivodship levels. It is to him that we bring our concerns and doubts, for example, problems associated with social issues involving young miners, with the implementation of loans for young married couples and with equipment deficiencies in the workers' dormitory. This is the basic mode of our cooperation with OKON. It follows from my observation so far that young people have taken up social activity in this movement rather heavily. The younger generation is vigorously active in particular committees in solving numerous issues of concern to their age group. However, we do not know the details, because in this case the principle of acting within organizational structures does not apply. The fact that ZSMP members are not serving on the boards and in other bodies of the OKON is not to say that they are not active in the committees at all.

[Marek Piotrowski] At present, 376 ZSMP members are serving on all OKONs in Przemysl Voivodship. It is not much, however, one must admit that increasingly

more young people are becoming aware of the opportunities this movement offers them. The task is to insure that the issues OKON is taking up are of concern to the young people. I mean such issues as nursery, day-care center and housing construction, utilization of empty lots of land and problems of the younger generation in starting careers and families. Members of ZSMP participate vigorously in solving these problems wherever they are very much in the spotlight. On the initiative of our organization, OKONs were set up in the Unified Voivodship Hospital in Przemysl, in the JAROSLAW glass factory and in Pruchnik parish.

[Jerzy Tchorzewski] In my opinion, OKON should not be tackling everything, and, specifically, the implementation of resolutions adopted by executive organs or national councils and subsequently swept under the rug. It seems to be that their primary function is to implement the renewal and to rally everyone to whose heart the good of the socialist motherland lies close around its program. I hope that this movement will convince the people to democratize our life. Young people must also be aware of their opportunity.

[Danuta Czerepko] There are many young people in the OKON in our enterprise. However, I am the only representative of ZSMP. This fact upsets me very much, because the way to OKON is open to everybody. You can come and not only listen to what is said at meetings held once a month, but also do something. I am at a loss to explain why there are no people who want that in the youth organization of our enterprise. Half of the OKON consists of young people, and this is a consolation. It cannot be otherwise, because the young account for a majority of our work force. I think that the lack of broad representation in the enterprise OKON undermines the prestige of the ZSMP. To my mind, OKON activities are very useful and needed. They have provided a forum where several production and social issues have been settled. Nonetheless, much still remains to be done. It is evident that housing for young people is the cardinal problem, and one must really wrack his brain to get things moving. Reviewing intended management decisions and resolutions regarding the enterprise is an important activity. I believe that we people from OKON also cannot lay an exclusive claim to wisdom, though there are 37 of us. In particular departments, there are OKON collectives which are, in principle, auxiliary organs assisting departmental management. They also include many young people. It seems to me that it is high time to establish some form of cooperation between the enterprise OKON and departmental collectives. This cooperation can produce valuable initiatives and ideas concerning the entire enterprise and its workforce.

Mieczyslaw Jesionowski confirms the opinion expressed by Danuta Czerepko that ZSMP members do not strive to work in OKON: Nonetheless, new young activists are asserting themselves and nothing else is important in this reference. /Many young people are only capable of criticizing certain phenomena. Sometimes their criticisms are right, but they do not suggest any actions aimed at eliminating evil, shortcomings and drawbacks. Besides, an attitude based on the demand: "give us..." but without an offer of something in return is quite common./ I have heard that the ZSMP is combating such views; however, this is not the case in my enterprise. Therefore, OKON must take up this task as well. We already have a few settled issues under our belt. I will mention

the overcoming of centralism in allocating wage funds among departments, improvement in the supply service and its upgrading. Lately, we brought about some movement on the issue of recycling used machine-tool parts.

Little by little, people are coming to like OKON. They are beginning to attend meetings which are, first, the source of true information and, second, a form for debate. We have managed to avert several conflicts and to prevent disappointment because people have learned the facts of the matter and all the conditions precisely, rather than having evaluated the matter exclusively from the vantage point of their job. One cannot say that this should be credited only to the younger or only to the elder generation. OKON's work is a team effort, but, we could use an increasingly large number of young people in our patriotic movement.

[Waldemar Jedrzejewski] The ZSMP of the GDANSK shipyard joined in the setting up of OKON, but we had reservations with regard to the constituent declaration. Creating OKON was not an initiative of the youth organization. We think that OKON should not only consist of people belonging to the organization, but of all those who desire to discuss concerns of the work force and participate in the front of [national] understanding as well as establish contacts with employees. /OKON must be a sociopolitical, not a social [welfare] organization. In its present format, OKON duplicates the work of management, which is a mistake. After all, what are the people in charge of solving these issues to do?/ Similarly, in our shipyard OKON must handle preparatory work for production, which is another misunderstanding. I think that OKON can be a body that controls and exacts the implementation of decisions, and the base from which young people can proceed in selecting candidates to national councils or in restoring self-government.

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